

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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THERE IS STILL HOPE

ALTHOUGH Highway Commission Chairman Henry Jordan did not promise to widen The Plaza north of Parkwood Ave. and Central Ave. east of The Plaza, he did not definitely rule out the two projects. Thus it is still reason to hope that the State will do the work.

Nonetheless, we still feel that the Council erred in handling the overall street problem in that area. The decision to widen E. 36th St. was hastily, and without adequate thought. More important, the Council should have done a little trading with the Highway Commission before voting the \$125,000.

It will profit little to widen E. 36th St. unless The Plaza is also widened. A four-lane street from N. Tryon to The Plaza will attract a great deal more traffic than the present two-lane street, and The Plaza is already badly congested in that section between 36th and Parkwood Ave.

The State has a good deal of interest in

traffic flow within cities. Prior to the construction of Independence Boulevard, State engineers had termed Charlotte the "bottleneck" in the whole Tar Heel road system. A logical and orderly plan for connecting N. Tryon with the eastern end of Independence Boulevard would certainly have interested the engineers of the State Highway Commission.

Instead of trying to work out a co-operative program, the Council, prodded by one member, precipitously selected E. 36th St. as the logical link ignoring the bad grade crossing at the Southern Railway tracks, and voted \$125,000 for it. Then, as an afterthought, the Highway Commission was asked to widen The Plaza so that it would be able to handle the larger volume of traffic.

So far, the Commission has shown little interest. Perhaps, in time, an affirmative decision will be forthcoming. We hope so, for the \$125,000 will be ill spent unless The Plaza is also widened.

TO THE VICTOR BELONGS THE HEADACHES

TODAY on this page Cartoonist Herlock eloquently points up the problems facing Britain. The old island's people are plagued by fuel crises, food shortages, trade surpluses, obnoxiousness in Egypt, and disaster in Iran. With Winter coming on, Prime Minister Attlee may really want to bow out temporarily and let the wrath of footstomping, tight-belted Englishmen fall on Tony ears for a while.

Mr. Attlee would not have had to call an election at this time, but he used shrewd reasoning in deciding to "go to the country" for a fourth time. The Labour Party has been in Britain for six years, the last eighteen months with a paper-thin majority. A defeat in Parliament requires the calling of new elections; thus all Labor hands, including the Cabinet, had to keep within running distance of the chambers in order to be available if a crucial vote came up. The strain of this sort of existence, plus austerity living, killed Foreign Minister Ernie Bevin, collapsed Chancellor of the

Exchequer Sir Stafford Cripp, and took its toll on many others. As a result, the regular leaders are tired, and may well welcome a respite to lick their wounds, rest their bones and revitalize their spirit. Then, with the electorate grumbling about the Conservatives' hard winter, Attlee's strategy would probably be to try to force a new election, by which he could return to power.

On the other hand, the Laborites may have decided to use the election to force the dissident left-wingers, led by Aneurin Bevan, back into line. The Labor Party's annual conference begins this weekend, and the Bevan followers will probably now join in a campaign rally rather than stage a mutiny. Thus, with a solid Labor front, Attlee may believe he can swing the election, thereby refuting the pollsters and strengthening his Party's position at home while bolstering his Government's reputation abroad. Like his American counterpart, Clem Attlee is a shrewd politician who came up through the ranks of the Party school and remembers his lessons.

FOR EVERY BRIBE, A BRIBER

IT is quite appropriate for Senator Hoey's Senate investigating subcommittee to examine the role played in the RFC-Libbald Co. loan negotiations by William Boyle, Carl Young, Guy Gabrielson, and every other public or semi-public official who was in a position to bring influence or friendship to bear in behalf of the St. Louis applicant.

It is quite pertinent to find out what gifts, favors, honorariums, bribes, considerations and the like were accepted by the public officials in return for helping the St. Louis firm get its loan.

Obviously, the mode of ethics in Washington is highly flexible, and conveniently serves the consciences of those from President Truman on down who see nothing wrong in national committee officials, White House aides, Congressmen or anyone else "introducing" RFC applicants to the right people. The revelations of the Hoey subcommittee

will be of help in limiting improper influence in the future.

Senator Hoey, along with Mr. Hoey's committee ought to examine the morals and ethics of a company that would resort to bribery and gifts and paid vacations and the like to buy Government favors that it could not get elsewhere.

For every corrupted public official, there must be a corruptor. If public officials are guilty of loose ethics and morals, it is equally obvious that many business firms seeking Government favors are equally deficient in the important attributes. If a code of ethics is to be drawn up for Government, and enforced by law, then there should also be some penalty for the business organization that hands out the bribes.

Senator Hoey will render a real public service if he plays the spotlight indiscriminately on all offenders in this sordid affair.

MORE BEEF AT THE COUNTER

AN effective indirect method of price control on beef was established last week, not by OPS, but by the Army.

The Army ordered the purchase of up to ten million pounds of beef from foreign countries. It acted after a request to U. S. packers for bids brought offers of only 190,000 pounds. Non-bidding packers gave beef to the Government and Government paid for their reasons for lack of interest in the proposition.

Of course we don't believe the Army considered its action as a means of price control, but by opening the door to the foreign market some healthy competition should develop. With the prospect of overseas competition, the packers might decide beef is not in as short supply as they claim it is.

Then too, the Army's decision means that another ten million pounds of U. S. beef should be available to the domestic market. That amount is but a small percentage of our annual domestic production, but combining with the new competitive factor could be sufficient to slightly tip the balance between supply and demand to the side of the housewife.

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From The Greensboro Daily News

THOSE HORRIBLE HANDOUTS

WE ARE as solicitous as the next citizen about Senators and Congressmen keeping their personal appointments and meeting their various appointments on schedule, but we are no more elated than Senator Douglas over their mooching off the Federal Government for haircuts and chauffeurs.

How can they conscientiously pursue their probes for economy in the executive branch when they let the spitgot leak from their barber shops? How can they dash madly after statistical butterflies for President Truman while they suck on the bureaucratic teat?

Senator Douglas said he suddenly realized the taxpayers were catching the check when he was having a free tonsorial treatment last week. "Our incomes are ample so that we can pay for our own haircuts and chauffeurs," he told the Senate. (Senators get \$15,000 a year including \$2,500 free for expenses.) But a chorus of "no's" like several barber shop quarts—greeted his motion. The hair-

of our sanctimonious economizers sounds off about the nation going flabby from government handouts, you will be referred by to your own neat shave, shampoo and haircut or liveried lackey.

Thunder! What does it take to convince people that economy can't begin over the neighbor's fence?

The high cost of living must be worrying our Canadian neighbors, too. At Hatch of Milton, Ont., motorboat pilot, has entered three boats in the fifth annual Hawwood Trophy Race around Manhattan Island. The names of the boats are Costa Living, Lotsa Costa, and Costa Lotsa—Coffeeville (Miss.) Courier.

The mayor and council killed the goose which laid the golden egg. The ones who they used to depend upon for fines to pay city debts have either been run out of town or put out of circulation and the \$64 question right now seems to be what they are going to use for fines when mother pay day comes around.—(Oga.) Gals. News.

"Say, Bob looks rather seedy. Hasn't he got a job?" "Sure, he has. He's a ghostwriter but lately he's been playing around too much with the spirits."—Lamar (Mo.) Democrat.

Good Heavens—What If We Should Win!



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.

We're Gullible Suckers

Editors, The News: "We Americans have been given credit for, and rightly, too, that we are gullible suckers. Too many of our fighting boys have met death when they answered a wounded enemy's call for 'water'."

Today Russia is at work among the seas. She leaves no stone unturned to cause friction between creeds, religions, and all peoples. The spread of narcotics so dangerous and ghastly among our youth smacks of Red leadership. If they can demoralize and undermine our youth, we are halflings, and they know it.

Instead of the Confederate Flag, which no one will ever cease to remember or love, let us use an American flag—as a definite, united reply to Russia.

The things we ought to do, we neglect, and we are led so easily into the traps they lay for us. Truly, we are a gullible lot of suckers. How they must laugh at how easily we take bait, hook, line and sinker! We need to stand together, State flag from public buildings and schools, but we aren't proud enough of our State to do that. We fall for the first time since the discovery of fire.

It is well to remember again "United We Stand, Divided We Fall." This is no time to be stung up old hatreds. We need to stand together, strong and firm, one for all and all for America. The Confederate Banner was furlled in respect and honor. Don't cheapen its memory.

—MRS. E. RICHEY

Referendum On Fair Deal

Editors, The News: EAST ORANGE, N. J. PRESIDENT TRUMAN is aiding the Fair Dealers'—Republicans and Democrats—to prevent Taft's nomination by the Republicans for the Presidency.

This I think is proof that the Fair Dealers in both parties realize that if Taft were nominated there would be a referendum on the New Deal and Fair Deal for the first time since their inception and that is what they don't want.

Since Willie and Dewey differed in emphasis rather than in fact, Mr. McGovern today goes to the voters having never had an opportunity to pass judgment on the New Deal and Fair Deal.

Then too, the Army's decision means that another ten million pounds of U. S. beef should be available to the domestic market. That amount is but a small percentage of our annual domestic production, but combining with the new competitive factor could be sufficient to slightly tip the balance between supply and demand to the side of the housewife.

they—are no more interested in bringing an end to the Fair Deal than a Fair Deal Democrat, they are combining their efforts to stop Taft in the hope that the Republicans will not nominate him and thus bring about our way of life are, therefore, out to stop Taft.

—GEORGE E. STRINGFELLOW

What We Like To Read

ORANGEBURG, S. C. Editors, The News: I read with great interest your article (in the Hoey Report) in the September 10th issue of The Charlotte News, and congratulate you in preparing such an article. More power to you in this work, this is what most of us like to read.

—W. F. McMILLAN

Quote, Unquote

Many a Memphis man will silently applaud Frank McDowell—the motorist who got the green light but waited for a pedestrian to cross the street, and got whammed by another car. Just listen to what McDowell said in traffic court:

"I stopped to let a pedestrian cross the street because I've got a lot of respect for a pedestrian. I do a lot of walking myself."

That is certainly practicing the Golden Rule while driving. Respect for the law and respect for the other fellow, walking or riding, go hand in hand.—Memphis (Tenn.) Press-Scimitar.

What the voters fear for '52 is that there'll be naught else to do, so they'll vote for the most unobjectionable choice between one evil and a worse.

—Kingsport (Tenn.) Times.

Marietta St. executive, with a nice eye for the extra touches, changes his shirt every afternoon in his office before he goes home to his wife.—Atlanta (Ga.) Journal.

Another thing we'd like to solve Before we get to heaven Is how these daughters twenty-one Have mortals twenty-seven.

—Gary Gould, in Greenville (Tenn.) Sun.

Over in the Wahoo neighborhood of eastern Louisiana, a firm with a shrewd head for business has traded a large monument over his first wife's grave for another stone which is expected later to be put only by his departed loved one but also himself and his second wife.

This, indeed, shows exceptionally good management in this otherwise muddled age of reckless spending.—Dahlgren (Ga.) Nugget.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

(ED. NOTE—The Brass Ring, good for five free rides in the Washington Merry-Go-Round today goes to Premier Alcide de Gasperi of Italy on his present visit to the United States.)

FIVE years ago I was in the Luxembourg Palace in Paris when a delegation representing defeated Italy entered. The entire peace conference sat stolid and chilly. Even the American and Russian delegates, who disagreed on many things, agreed in their frostiness toward the nation which had spawned Mussolini and extended his Fascist brand of tyranny over the Mediterranean.

Japan and Germany were not permitted to send delegates to the peace conference and doubtless would not have dared to do so even had they been permitted. In contrast, a thin-faced, frail Italian wearing spectacles walked timidly up to the rostrum and made a plea.

"I raise my voice for a new republic which is striving toward the lasting and constructive peace which you also are seeking," he said. "A nation of tollers is ready and determined to work with you in the foundation of a more just and humane world."

There was no applause when the thin-faced Italian finished—no indication that he had won support for the co-operation he was seeking. Nor was there any thought that this man could long remain at the helm of the turbulent, wavering coalition of parties which then governed Italy.

Today, however, that man, Premier de Gasperi of Italy, still frail, still thin-faced, still wearing horn-rimmed spectacles in the United States, not as a suppliant, representing a conquered nation, but as a friend and partner in the defense co-operative for Western Europe.

And having just come from Ottawa and a discussion of mutual NATO defense, de Gasperi knows better than most how drastically the diplomats have reversed them-

Pearson Awards Brass Ring to de Gasperi

selves since that frigid day in the Palace of Luxembourg in 1945.

Homespun Premier

IT is quite possible that Italy would not be playing this role of full partnership had it not been for the man who arrives in Washington today. He is not a prepossessing figure. In fact, you can't imagine anyone more the opposite of Mussolini than Alcide de Gasperi—drab, demure, modest, homespun.

But the exact opposite of Mussolini—in more ways than one—is what Italy has needed for these hard war years. And De Gasperi's life has been the reverse of Mussolini's almost from the day it began.

De Gasperi was born—70 years ago—on the wrong side of the tracks. The son of a minor Austrian government official, he grew up in the Alps, where Austria and Italy and where slices of territory have changed hands over the years.

De Gasperi studied at the University of Vienna, got into the labor movement, was elected to the Austrian Parliament as an Italian separatist, battled against both the Austrian aristocracy and Italian Communists, and finally, after World War I had shifted his part of the map from Austria over to Italy, was elected to the Italian Parliament.

Christianity And Politics

IT was in this period when the first seeds of Italian Fascism were sprouting that De Gasperi helped found the Popular Party, later the Christian Democracy Party, based on the principle of applying Christianity to social and political welfare.

New Tax Loophole Would Take Five Per Cent Boys Off Hook

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON ON WEDNESDAY afternoon at 3 o'clock the Finance Committee released a new tax bill which is 349 pages of fine print. Notably it is a committee report of 120 pages.

At 10 A. M. the following morning the Senate took the bill for consideration, according to estimates of the Committee's staff, for about \$5.5 billion in additional revenue over the next six years' sleep and concentrated all the rest of their time on taxes they would have had fourteen hours in which to familiarize themselves with a complicated measure so difficult and sometimes so language gives the breaks to the big taxpayer and puts the added burden on the small taxpayer.

The fact is, of course, that most Senators have little or no knowledge of what is in the bill. And many are so preoccupied with other matters or so indifferent that they give slight attention to the debate on the floor.

HUMPHREY FIGHTS DOGGERS Who does he know what it contains as a result of two months of concentrated study of the tax problem is Sen. Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota. After the bill was reported out, Humphrey went to Majority Leader Ernest Gruening to ask how much time would be given in the Senate to consideration of the bill. When he was told that the hope was to push it through, with lengthened Senate sessions, by the week's end, he was sent home with indignation—and for the articulate Humphrey that is an extraordinary statement.

The central weakness of the bill, Humphrey pointed out, is the fact that it raises taxes on the earnings of individuals and on corporate income while it reduces the capital-gains tax. Under the capital-gains tax, if an individual holds stocks, land or other property for a certain period and then sells it at a profit, this is considered not

as income but as capital gain. The tax rate on it can be as low as 25 per cent, instead of 70 per cent for income and 52 per cent for corporation tax.

Naturally the tendency is, with the help of clever tax lawyers, to convert income into capital gain and thereby to reduce the amount received by the Government. In general, only those with incomes of \$20,000 a year or more can make any practical use of this device.

Another provision that has drawn Humphrey's fire is an extension of the family partnership provision permitting income to be spread not merely between husband and wife but between children and even nieces and cousins' and nieces and nephews. The real stimulus is that this privilege would be made retroactive to 1939.

In this way it would take off the book thousands of get-rich-quick patriots and five per centers out of World War II. Claims totaling hundreds of millions of dollars are being pressed against them by the Service of Internal Revenue. But with the retroactive provision these claims would all be canceled.

Equally concerned over the inflationary effects of the present bill and the loopholes in it is Sen. Dennis Chavez, who has a remarkable ability to analyze complex legislation. Douglas says the measure involves a "big change" in the tax system at a time when controls have been weakened and the price spiral is pushing upward.

The Treasury is running a deficit for the current calendar year at the rate of \$4 billion a month. Since most provisions of the bill will be applied only in the last two months of 1951, the Senate bill would raise only one-tenth of a billion in 1951. The deficit for 1952 would be at an even higher rate.

Anyone wanted a pure and unadulterated example of what pressure group politics can do, there is the Senate tax bill. Practically everybody got into the act.

Corruption, Apathy, Crime Permeate The Whole Country

By ROBERT C. HARK

NEW YORK Will it still our Ambassador to Mexico. The job was awarded when he was in the hot of town when things got hot in the graft investigations. He was named by the New York Times as a man who represented an important country by a man who deserted the job.

The man was named by the New York Times as a man who represented an important country by a man who deserted the job. He was named by the New York Times as a man who represented an important country by a man who deserted the job.

It does not seem to me that we need an investigation of sports, or an investigation of cheating at West Point, so much as we need an investigation of the graft and the permits continued abuse of public right in the men who run the nation.

There is a dirtiness that permeates us from top to bottom, from high to low, from the top of the nation to the bottom of the nation. It is a dirtiness that permeates us from top to bottom, from high to low, from the top of the nation to the bottom of the nation.

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I think I know why D. A. Miles McDonald went when the trial of Harry Gross left through. He was weeping at the facility of trying to clean up an Augean stable. He was weeping at the tier of honesty in the land.

The first was demonstrated after he won the national election in April, 1948. The second was demonstrated after he won the national election in April, 1948. The second was demonstrated after he won the national election in April, 1948.

It wouldn't be fair," he said. "This was a victory for democracy and for the political party."

And he proceeded to appoint to his cabinet some of the strongest men from the Republican, Liberal, and Socialist parties.

Such is the man who has pulled Italy through the rigorous postwar period with a pro-American government, and who has been the leader of the Italian Communist Party under Russia in the last.

It was in this period when the first seeds of Italian Fascism were sprouting that De Gasperi helped found the Popular Party, later the Christian Democracy Party, based on the principle of applying Christianity to social and political welfare.

The foundation of that party came too late. Also the train on which De Gasperi first rode to Rome to take his