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PREFERENTIAL PRIMARY, WASHINGTON STYLE

EVERYBODY has been talking about a bigger and better system of preferential Presidential primaries. Unlike most other states, the state of Washington is getting ready to do something about it.

And what Washington is about to do would be an excellent guide for the 1953 North Carolina General Assembly.

Recently a bipartisan citizens' committee, aided by the Bureau of Governmental Research and Services of the University of Washington, proposed a Presidential primary law that combines the best features of other state laws as tested by experience. Here are its main provisions.

1. The unit rule is abolished. Instead of giving all the state's delegates to the top contender in the primary, delegates votes would be divided in mathematical proportion to the primary vote received by each candidate.

2. Candidates may be entered in the primary in three ways: by certification by the national committee or by the state central committee of each party, or by petition of at least 1,000 registered voters.

3. It is not necessary to obtain the consent of the candidate before entering his name, nor does any candidate have the power to withdraw. This gives the primary over to the voters entirely, and prevents any candidate from entering or staying out as may seem politically astute.

4. Delegates to the national conventions will be bound by the primary votes until the candidate receives less than 10 per cent of the total vote, or until he releases them.

6. The primary would be open to all voters, and registered voters would be as free to cross party lines in the primary as they are in the general election.

6. A late date—the third Wednesday in May—is suggested in order that the results of the primary may have some realistic relation to the approaching conventions.

Already plans have been made to introduce a measure containing these provisions at the next session of the Washington legislature, in order that public hearings may be held. This means that the people of Washington will have a chance to express themselves now, four years in advance of the next Presidential election, rather than waiting until 1956 when it may be too late to work out any practical law.

The preferential Presidential primary is not without its flaws, but the Washington proposal seems to minimize whatever shortcomings there may be and to paramount the better points. If the next N. C. General Assembly detects any considerable public interest in a Presidential primary for this state, it could profitably include the Washington plan in its calculations.

THE BATTLE FOR MEN'S MINDS

IT WAS a fairly short story and it was buried deep in the bulky *New York Times*. But the event it described was a meaningful advance in the battle for men's minds in this turbulent world.

In San Severo, a town in Southern Italy, 387 former Communists stood together a few days after Christmas. Renouncing their party affiliation in a public ceremony, they tore up their membership cards and were received into the Christian Democratic Party.

Had this been a single, isolated incident, it would not bear much significance. But similar desertions from the Communist Party have been taking place all over Italy in the past two or three years. The total is now high in the thousands.

There are several reasons why Italian Communists are breaking away from Moscow domination. One is that they have found out by now that Red promises are deceptive and illusory. Another is that the Italian Government is carrying out with vigor a new land reform law that gives landless peasants a chance to own their own farms.

A third—little known in this country because of a provision in the law specifically prohibiting publicity—is the extremely effective work of a corps of American psychological warfare experts, working under the joint direction of the State Department and the Mutual Security Agency. They are doing battle with the Communists at the grass roots level—with radio programs, newspaper stories posters, pamphlets, motion pictures, public speakers.

And they are getting results. Officials of the U. S. Embassy in Rome will display for anyone who asks stacks of photographs of Communist Party membership cards turned in by Italians who have deserted the party.

The battle between freedom and Communist slavery takes many forms. It may be an air attack in Korea, a debate in the United Nations, an international broadcast. Or it may be the slower, less spectacular job of whittling down Communist Party strength in the free world by exposing its rottenness and deceptiveness to those who have fallen in its power.

In the long run, they will all add up to victory for freedom if the battle is waged steadfastly and courageously, and with careful attention to the basic fact that a bad idea can only be overcome by a better idea.

A NEW TAR HEEL INSTITUTION

NOT THAT it hasn't been amply covered on the sports pages, but we'd like to make one or two points about the recent Dixie Classic in Raleigh.

In case there are any of you readers who don't know what the Dixie Classic is, a word of explanation is in order. This was the fourth year of the Classic. Each year it features four North Carolina basketball teams—State College, the University of North Carolina, Duke, and Wake Forest—and four outside teams invited because of their national rating as basketball competitors. The event runs for three days, with each team playing three games.

The value of the tournament, however, goes considerably beyond the competition of fine athletes and the entertainment of the fans. The Dixie Classic is becoming a real Tar Heel institution, an event that puts this state on the sports pages of every major newspaper in the country, and an occasion for displaying the best in the traditional Tar Heel friendliness and hospitality.

This year's classic went off smoothly. Everybody seems to have been well pleased, especially the out-of-state coaches and players who went away full of praises for Tar Heelia plus a handsome cut of cash from the record-breaking total attendance record of 61,400.

A sidelight of some interest to Charlotteans is the fact that no afternoon or evening session was a complete sell-out. It has been argued here that the 10,000-seat capacity proposed for the new Charlotte Coliseum is too small. If the Dixie Classic, held in an area where interest in basketball has reached the stage of madness, and drawing on student bodies as well as other fans from four big colleges, can't fill the 12,000-seat State College Coliseum, it is hardly likely that any sports event in Charlotte will draw more than 10,000 fans.

POOR GERHARD

THE SAD, sad case of Gerhard Eisler is an object lesson for all good Communists this side of the Iron Curtain.

Eisler was a good Communist, or at least he thought he was. He jumped bond here in the U. S. and eventually got to East Germany, an "escape" applauded by Communists on both sides of the Atlantic.

He got a big job as a propagandist, then, a few months ago, Comrade Lange, a big German Communist, sharply criticized him. Now a really awful charge has been placed against him. It is said that he criticized Stalin, back in the '20's. The noose is tightening around Comrade Eisler's neck, and before long, if the familiar pattern is followed, he'll walk that last, long mile to the gallows.

The Eisler case should make some of his American friends stop and ponder. Take, for example, ex-Congressman Vito Marcantonio. A few years ago (after, of course, Eisler said bad things about Stalin) Marcantonio stanchly praised Eisler. Consider what might happen to Marcantonio and other of Eisler's American fellow traveling friends if they "escaped" to Iron Curtainland. They could be called Eislerites, which, for purposes of punishment, would be equal to Titoist, deviationist, papist, capitalist, and Zionist.

We doubt that American Reds will be anxious to move to their ideological motherland any more. Communism is so much nicer—even for Communists—when it's in another country.

From The New York Times

WHITE SUPREMACY

THE Rev. Amos H. Carnegie, a Negro preacher of Washington, D. C., who was beaten up on an Atlanta-to-Chattanoga bus after he had refused to ride on a back seat, will find little to ease his physical suffering in the fact that he was right, and stood on his rights. The Supreme Court has banned segregation on interstate buses.

While we in the North may not lay any flattering unction to our souls and preen ourselves on having obtained perfection in racial relations, we cannot but be shocked at such incidents. Our feeling of outrage is perhaps the only spiritual comfort we can extend to the victim. In this we know we are not alone.

Agricultural specialists figure that folks in this state will eat about 66 pounds of beef per person next year. They undoubtedly know of some new form of purchasing power not yet explained to the meat-hungry public. —*Omega (Ga.) News.*

Somebody has reported seeing a flying saucer in the skies near Florence. Thank goodness we are back to normal again.—*Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont.*

'Besides, We Invented 'Bam', 'Zowie' And 'Plop' First'

Many Complex Problems

New Era Begins With Ike

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON

THIS is the official turning of the year. In practice, however, the new year will really begin, for America and for the Western World, when Dwight D. Eisenhower takes his Presidential oath.

That day, in his inaugural address, Eisenhower will summon Americans to a new unity and a new sense of their high task. Soon thereafter, he will reveal the broad outline of his practical program in his message on the State of the Union, which will be his first down-to-earth statement of policy.

The two speeches, which Eisenhower has already decided to differentiate in this manner, will symbolize together the two great goals he has set for himself. In an atmosphere grown fetid with political squalor and political ugliness, he hopes to bring about a renewal of faith. And in a time when American policy sometimes seems to swing aimlessly, like a broken shutter in the wind, he hopes to achieve reinvigoration by works.

One thing is clear, even now, about this great enterprise that Eisenhower is embarking on. It is going to make 1953 a wonderfully busy and probably argumentative year. The range of activity, the variety of the already foreseeable causes of debate, are little short of stupendous.

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THE State Department is to be reorganized again —John Foster Dulles has asked Donald B. Lourie, President of the Quaker Oats Co., to undertake this grisly job as a Second Under Secretary of State. While the policy-making machinery is in mid-upheaval, the Korean problem is to be boldly tackled — certain of Eisenhower's advisors are now discussing the use of atomic weapons against the enemy ground forces there, which should provoke a major inter-Allied turmoil. Other great problems, like Indo-China, are also to be firmly attacked—and this can make trouble with the Congress.

The defense budget is to be recast—among the Eisenhower-men there is much talk of canceling the bulk of the giant carrier program and otherwise "bringing the Navy forces' level into line with national strategy," which should touch off still a third resounding controversy. While the existing defense program is being turned upside down, it is also planned to grasp such huge nettles as the great issues raised by the hydrogen bomb and the vast and urgent problem of American air defense.

A new relation between Congress and the White House must be hammered out—and it may be said on good authority that few Eisenhower men count on basing this relation on continued peaceful co-operation between Dwight D. Eisenhower and Robert A. Taft. Taxes, inflation, wage and price controls, farm policy, internal security policy—all these must be revised or re-defined. And while all this is going on, the outside world will still be pressing ever new proposals and demands upon Eisenhower. Even before his inauguration, for instance, Winston Churchill will almost surely lay before him a new British plan for currency stabilization, which may involve drastic American tariff reductions, and certainly call for a massive American contribution to a broader monetary stabilization fund for the Western World.

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IT is only necessary to go down this extremely incomplete list to see two things. First of all, the great numbers of people who hope the Eisenhower Administration will prove a sort of political golden age, are due for a sad disappointment. So many complex questions cannot be ventilated, so many vital decisions cannot be reached, without a good deal of friction. The concord that prevails today cannot prevail much longer, for obvious practical reasons.

Second, however, the very fact that Eisenhower and his co-workers plan such an aggressive attack on so many fronts at once is in itself vastly encouraging. American government has too long been languid and palsied. The biggest trouble, at home and abroad, has been the loss of vigor and self-confidence.

Yet with all their vigor, all their self-confidence, all their freshness of outlook, Eisenhower and his new men will also need to be wise in themselves and strengthened by the support of a united nation. This time that is beginning now is the time that must shape the future of America and of the world.

It is the time that all the Chiefs of Staff in all the Western nations have chosen as the moment of greatest danger, by reason of the completion of the Soviet rearmament program. It is the time that will tell whether Western alliance can hold together. It is the time that will tell whether this nation can do its job as the leader of the free world. No President, not even Abraham Lincoln, has taken office with such a heavy burden of immediate responsibility, amid such dangers, or surrounded by such difficulties. If Eisenhower fails, the last best hope will fail with him. But as the year 1953 opens, the signs are that Eisenhower will succeed.

Quote, Unquote

Store collector: Are you going to pay us that past due account?

Old account: Not just yet.

Collector: If you don't, I'll tell all your other creditors that you did.—**Asheville Citizen.**

When he realizes he is getting nowhere fast the average man tries to hurry up.—**Ellaville (Ga.) Sun.**

A Texan walked into the bar of a New York night club, saw a customer lying helpless on the floor, and pointing to him, said: "Give me some of that."—**Greenville (Tenn.) Sun.**

"So Dora took the rich old man for better or worse?"

"No, she took him for worse, but he got better."—**Boston Herald.**

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Senate Chairmen Can Make Or Break Ike

WASHINGTON

IT'S the committees of Congress, far more than the public realizes, which pass the laws and which make or break an administration's policies. And, particularly, it's the powerful chairmen of the committees who can do this.

A committee chairman can decide whether a bill is to be reported out or pigeonholed; he can rule on how much money a certain department of the government will get, what laws will be paid, what judges shall be approved or vetoed.

Thus, the success of Eisenhower's administration will depend in part on the committee chairmen of the new Congress. Therefore, here is a roll call of what Eisenhower can expect from the men who dominate the backstage law-making on Capitol Hill.

Senate Agriculture Committee—George Aiken of Vermont. Honest, forthright, will co-operate with Eisenhower.

Appropriations — Styles Bridges of New Hampshire. Shrewd, able, skilled at wire-pulling. Bridges has a record as an influence-peddler. When he was trying to get a $7,000,000 income-tax case fixed for Baltimore liquor-dealer Hyman Klein, he made a speech on the Senate floor urging a salary increase for "good old Charlie Oliphant." It so happened that "good old Charlie" was the counsel of Internal Revenue and the man whom Bridges was was urging to fix the Klein case.

Armed Services—Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts. A prim, proper Boston blue-blood with an impeccable record for honesty, but no great record for bravery. He will co-operate with Eisenhower and give the armed services pretty much what they want.

Banking and Currency—Homer Capehart of Indiana, the music-box king. Capehart is for big business first, last, and foremost, wants to raise interest rates on G.I. loans, is against price controls, and helped to bottle up the Senate report on the RFC loan to the B. & O. Railroad.

District of Columbia—Francis Case of South Dakota. Hard-working, sincere, will make a good chairman of the committee which rules the nation's capital.

Expenditures—Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin. He has been itching to get his hands on the most important investigating committee in Congress, in order to retaliate against some of the people who have opposed him. McCarthy is all set to stage a witch hunt on schools and colleges, will co-operate with Ike for about a year, then turn on him just as vitriolically as he fought the State Department under Acheson.

Finance—Eugene Millikin of Colorado. This is the committee which writes the nation's tax laws. Millikin is a genial millionaire who believes in reducing taxes in the higher brackets, getting rid of the excess-profits tax, and taxing fairly heavily in the lower brackets.

Foreign Relations—Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin. A good-natured back-slapper who sometimes lets his sense of humor run away with him, but who has taken his work more seriously since he remarried. He will give Eisenhower pretty much what he wants.

Interior and Insular Affairs — Hugh Butler of Nebraska. Opponent of public power and of statehood for Alaska and Hawaii, he recently took a vacation in Hawaii at the taxpayers' expense, is now reported favorable to statehood.

Interstate and Foreign Commerce—Charles Tobey of New Hampshire. One of the most respected and older Senators, Tobey will co-operate with Eisenhower only as long as he thinks Eisenhower is right. Vigilantly honest, Tobey is a crusader for the underdog.

Judiciary—"Wild Bill" Langer of North Dakota. Republicans are still trying to figure out some way they can prevent Langer from passing judgment on important appointments of the entire government, judges and U. S. attorneys. They dread the idea of having Langer the man of whom they have to ask favors to get judges confirmed. Langer will not be a high-handed as his predecessor, Democratic Senator McCarran, but will be independent, to put it mildly.

Labor and Public Welfare—Alexander Smith of New Jersey. This is the committee long dominated by Taft. Though Taft has finally agreed to bow out, Smith has confided to friends that he will be only a figurehead, that Taft will really run the Labor Committee. A former Princeton professor, Smith is a friend of Eisenhower, will do what he says unless pushed from the side by Taft. Then he'll go the way he is pushed most.

Post Office—Frank Carlson of Kansas. One of Eisenhower's close friends and a hard-working, conscientious Senator, Carlson will co-operate 100 per cent.

Public works—Edward Martin of Pennsylvania. A colorless personality; Martin was for Taft, now will be for Eisenhower.

Rules—William Jenner of Indiana. This powerful committee which rules on elections and the investigation of other Senators, will be in the hands of the man who called George Marshall a traitor. He is considered one of the most harum-scarum members of Congress. Eisenhower will get little co-operation from him after the first year.

These are the men who will turn the wheels of the Senate Merry-Go-Round and pass the laws which the rest of the country will have to follow.

Like The Reef Of An Atoll, Lobbyists Surround Capital

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

AS A cynic once remarked, they never go back to Pocatello. He was talking about our nation's capital and the way in which layer upon layer of ex-officeholders are piled one on top of the other.

They reach back to the dim past, to Coolidge and to Hoover. For the most part, of course, they are lawyers. But a new category has been added in recent years — that of "consultant."

If the ungrateful voters in your home state have turned against you and you do not have a law degree, then you can hang out a shingle as a consultant in Washington. You can be an economic consultant, a public relations consultant or perhaps even a political consultant.

LOBBYISTS IN DISGUISE

There are knowledgeable consultants who supply valuable information and background. But for others this fancy title is a thin disguise for lobbyist, which means a cruder function. The lobbyist sells what remains of his power and influence on Capitol Hill and back home for what he can get out of a well-heeled client.

This fascinating process is now going on in the capital on a larger scale than at any time in the past 20 years. From the Senate and House office buildings and from the executive departments the defeated are moving out. In the cliff-like office buildings that go up with such rapidity new names are being lettered on the doors.

It has been compared, this process, to the building of a coral reef. Year after year the barrier of coral rock is built up around the South Pacific atoll with its beautiful palm-fringed beaches. Thereby access to the island becomes increasingly difficult.

In the same way the political deposit grows up around the island of government with its beckoning promise of power and privilege. You have to know how to get through those reefs in order to share the company of the privileged.

The process may not be altogether a healthy one. Gibbon in his "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire" has some things to say about the way in which lawyers accumulated in the latter days of Rome and the toll they exacted. That familiar cry—there ought be a law—has been heard here; a law that would prohibit former members of government boards and commissions from practicing before those bodies within a certain time limit. Some departments and commissions have put in regulations to that effect.

Although the same party has been in power for 20 years, the barrier reef has nevertheless been building up. New Deal and Fair Deal lawyers have moved out of government to establish highly successful law firms. These accretions range back from the early Roosevelt to the late Truman era. One of the newest recruits is former Attorney General Howard McGrath, dismissed by President Truman, who has opened his own Washington law office.

The reasons why they never (well, hardly ever) go back to Pocatello are obvious enough. The focus of power at the center of big government is sufficient explanation in itself. The blandishments of this power take many forms from the constant parade of cocktail parties to the discreet little hotel suite dinners where so much is so coyly arranged.

OLD FACES REMAIN

New faces will come in on Jan. 20. But most of the old faces will remain. That song of the lord high executioner in "The Mikado" with the refrain, "They never would be missed, they never would be missed," does not apply in Washington.

Exploring A New Pyramid, Ruark Finds Time Capsuled

By ROBERT C. RUARK

CAIRO

I HAD LUNCH with a couple of dead dames today, which is as unusual a lead as you are apt to run into. One of the girls had gotten married away and lost her head. The other was slightly footless.

I have lunched with some slightly moribund numbers before. But these were perhaps the deadest of the group. They had been dead about 4,500 years, which is a long time even for Egypt. They were stacked neatly on a shelf in the storehouse at Sakkara, where my friend, Dr. Ahmed Fakhri of Cairo University has been excavating a new pyramid.

It's pretty exciting, clawing into a new pyramid. Until the day we arrived they hadn't been able to tell who the pyramid belonged to. On the day of our arrival in the desert Dr. Fakhri's assistants had just found a pillar identifying the tomb. The diggings belong to the wife of one King Isesi, a fifth-dynasty gentleman who passed along about 2500 B. C.

SHE TOOK OVER

There is some indication that Mrs. Isesi was a strong-minded dame. Evidently when her spouse shuffled off she took over the government and was pretty successful in canceling out some of her old man's accomplishments and re-engraving a history of her own.

We stuck the photographer down a hole to take some color of the murals in the tomb of a Mr. Pepi-Ankh, alias Sethu. These murals were very fine and fresh, considering they had been resting under Sahara sands for about 4,500 years or thereabouts. There was just about room in the vault for my large companion, Mr. Blackie Kronfeld, and a camera. We had to grease Blackie to get him down the hole, and grease him again to get him out.

I did not notice the two dead dolls until about halfway through lunch, since they were not exactly in a chatterbox mood. They were evidently a couple of ladies-in-waiting from Pepi-Ankh's establishment. One was still had her head, but was dreadfully short on neck. Mr. Kronfeld, a very irreverent man, remarked that he had seen worse lookers walking around Greenwich Village alive, and that he would take a mummy every time over some of the artsy-crafty tomatoes who wear jeans and short haircuts.

Mr. Kronfeld was also heavily impressed with the method of running the government back then. Digging is done by natives, who work in specified jobs to rhythms supplied by professional singers and two stout foremen who hit them on the behinds with long sticks to encourage activity.

Blackie seemed to find a bright analogy in the fact that they beat the ancestors of these people when they were building the temple, and now were beating the same kind of folks to get them to tear it down again.

CAPSULE TIME

It was a peculiar experience. We had spent most of the previous day with Mohammed Naguib, the new boss man of Egypt. From Naguib to the tomb of Pepi-Ankh and Mrs. Isesi seemed rather too curt and a capsuling of the passage of time. Sitting on a stone block with some-body's ancient portrait carved on it, with a neat line of skulls at my feet, two mummies on the wall six feet away, and the khamseen blowing about 50 miles an hour outside, I felt very insignificant as I chewed on a hotel sandwich and contemplated the impermanence of mankind.

Dr. Fakhri was telling us about a revolution similar to modern times, where the poor overthrew the kings and nobles and moved into the palaces, while the noble ladies sold their children and the lords got lost in the desert. The servant girls wore their mistresses' finery and drank up the boss's booze. It all seemed a little too modern for comfort.

As we left to go back to modern times and the Semiramis Hotel on the Nile, Mr. Kronfeld said a profound thing.

"I have decided," he said, "that a man's best friend is his mummy."

That is why the bones of Mr. Kronfeld will be discovered some day in the tomb of Pepi-Ankh, which is where we buried Blackie.