

THOMAS L. ROBINSON... Publisher
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THE SOUTHERN REPUBLICANS' TASK

THERE was much talk last fall about the prospects of a real two-party South. Optimism was justified. The Republicans had the majority in control of Congress. They had elected a Republican congressman from North Carolina, three from Virginia. They had carried four southern states and made substantial gains in several others.

Today, almost a year since the election, two-party South remains but a goal and a phrase.

The Gallup poll released this week reports that 79 per cent of southern voters would like to see the Democrats win. Congressional elections were held now. The 79 per cent is within one per cent of the actual Democratic percentage of total Southern vote in the past three congressional elections.

Republicans are not getting established in patronage positions in the South. Delay in Washington and party factionalism are discouraging some of the party faithful.

State and local organizations in most southern states, including both the Carolinas, continue to lag.

Furthermore, the party may well lose the support of many of its mere "presidential Republicans" because of its farm and civil rights programs.

WELCOME GUESTS FROM A STURDY ALLY

ROYALTY must have more than purple pedigrees to survive in these times. Thrones are held only by those kings and queens who maintain the respect and admiration of their people.

The main reason U. S. foreign policy succeeded here was because of the nature of the Greeks. They are a tough and self-reliant people. Help was appreciated. But if it had not been forthcoming they would have fought on, despite the likelihood of defeat.

IT'S TOO BAD ABOUT CATS AND BIRDS

KRMPFH is a tomcat. He may have another name, but Krmpfh is what "Grundson," the 18-month-old at our house, calls him. They are big buddies.

Krmpfh is smart. He understands people. The other evening we asked him if he knew that Monday was the first day of the National Cat Week.

And when we showed him this letter from the president to the Friends of the Birds, Inc., for release during National Cat Week, he was smooth as a politician.

Krmpfh may not know this, but he is a big comfort in this atomic age. He sets a good example. He never lets his neighbors or commentators excite him. He takes each day in stride and enjoys it fully.

From The Richmond News-Leader

THE OLD CRANK HAD ITS POINT

AMERICANS aren't the only people trying to find solutions to the problem of drunken driving. In Western Germany—where, we are told, the traffic code makes no provision for drunk driving until the driver runs into something or somebody—one Alfons Siedenhaus given the problem considerable thought.

Herr Siedenhaus has put together a device he calls an "alcohol meter," fixed to the end of an electric cord attached to an automobile's instrument board. The car won't start until the driver breathes into the meter.

As clever as it is, this scheme has a flaw. Back in the days when cars had to be cranked, a fellow who was too numbed by assiduous application of spirits inter-

acted upon the Republicans, similarly to the way it descended upon the Truman Administration.

1 The abolition of the convention system for nominating state and local GOP candidates, the initiation of direct primaries.

2 The enlistment of competent, respected candidates for local, state and congressional offices.

3 A concerted attack on the many legal devices designed to thwart Republicanism, adopted by Democratic legislatures. The gerrymander, rigged election laws and Democratic control of election machinery—these devices must go.

4 Finally, the local organizations must with crusading fervor get out and build up their membership rolls, and from the captured seats elect a brand of leadership that is still wanting.

Now, on the eve of next spring's primary election battles, is a good time for southern Republicans to renew their efforts to make their dream a reality.

His Virtues And Faults Remain

Interview With Chiang Kai-shek

By JOSEPH ALSOP

TAIPEI, Formosa. THE ROOM is handsome, the servants are soft footed, as befits the headquarters of a chief of state.

The man at the big desk is in his sixties now and looks more sage than soldier, yet he is the highest and most venerable of the war-time, super-hero type, the wise and tireless dignitary—these traits are quite unchanged. Such is Chiang Kai-shek today.

The enemy has lost the people here. They system driven them all ways to make new aggressive moves. Our time will surely come. It is nearly 30 years since this man could expel the Communists from the Kuo-min-tang. It is nearly four years since he was attacked, in order to forestall this man's unification of China.

Yet it is not alone, although, but usually led him to present to remember that the weaknesses of this man helped to bring disaster upon him and his people. Chiang Kai-shek, beyond doubt, is one of the great men of our time. Those who deny his greatness are fools or worse.

CHANG'S SORRY HELPERS. God knows, American policy in China was idiotic enough in the crucial period. Yet it was not American policy, it was Chiang Kai-shek himself, who entrusted the fate of the Chinese to such a man.

Here in Formosa you can see what might have been, from the job that is being done by the Chen Chengs and the Sun Li-jens and all the other able and honest men whom the Generalissimo never used to like or trust. There was something in Chiang's nature that usually led him to prefer the pliant bad lot to independent minded good men; and this tendency, plus the character of the disaster Kuo-min-tang, had led infinitely more to do with the loss of mainland China.

Today, furthermore, just as we see Chiang Kai-shek's greatness at work here in Formosa, so you also see the influence of

Halloween in Korea



Too Bad About Bushkin—Piano Players Shouldn't Have Money

By ROBERT C. RUARK

I HAVE read in the papers that a friend of mine, a Mr. Joseph Bushkin, will shortly come in connection with some two million dollars as a result of his wife's inheritance. This disturbs me, because even in my own imagination, any part of two million bucks is too much for a piano player to handle.

A professional piano player, especially a hot pianist, is not actually a candidate for inclusion in the human race. He has his own language, his own money, conversation, levitation, or any of the other common comforts of the ordinary man.

Give him cigarettes, benzidine, sleeping pills and waking up pills, fill a glass with snowed liquid, and claim him to be the best, and he is as happy as a piano player to be as right to be. He has his own language, and his own amusement simultaneously.

But piano players must be kept poor, so that they may play the piano and not try to dominate the world in other fields. No piano player is content merely to play their rations. They want to be actors, a singer, a comedian and a horn player.

Will consider my friend Mr. Bushkin, who once sat up three days to choose the correct piano for his house, and then said said house with musicians will be a nervous breakdown on my part, and I will be glad to see you.

But Mr. Bushkin's favorite instrument is not the piano, but the trumpet, on which he is somewhat less talented than the late Billie Holiday. "His position as the trumpet soloist for all his horn buried with full military honors from World War I, and he is playing a very hot 'Taps' over

the tier of some defunct high brass, executed the wrong close-combat maneuver and fell into the grave with the general. This proved embarrassing to both Bushkin and the departed officer.

What I'm afraid of now is that take him completely away from the instrument which he first started playing professionally at the age of 15 in one of those houses. As a rich idler, he will do nothing but act, sing, make jokes, and play the trumpet. And talk.

TALKATIVE TYPE. I once mention talk. Mr. Bushkin, if rich, singing, making jokes and playing the trumpet. I am with Bushkin I listen. And then for the next few days dig like man, cat, jive, pop, dig, straight, square, boob, cool, and cool.

And there is a great arrogance in the little man, an arrogance of mind and spirit, a pride in his fatten and feed. As a "poor" piano player, I once saw Bushkin leave a burro in Rome which fed on the same grass as the four-pawed for the deer for all its pigeonholes as the deer for all its four paws, from floor to ceiling.

Administration Information Policy Needs More Attention

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON. THE complaint of many Washington newspapermen in Washington is that the flow of the news has been curtailed in the last few months. The Administration is accused of applying a deliberate and arbitrary curb on everyone at the top level.

The case was well stated by Robert Brant, a former correspondent of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, in his television debate with James Hagerty, President Truman's press secretary. Brant accused the Administration of seeking to prevent all discussion and speculation on important decisions until they were presented as accomplished fact.

It is true, of course, that the Administration has postponed decisions on some of the most controversial issues before the country. Debate goes on behind closed doors while committees and commissions prepare reports. A farm program, atomic policy, trade and tariffs, the expansion of Social Security—these are the questions on the pending list. That is one reason the stream of the news from official sources is sluggish.

NEW ORDER C'RING. The Secretary of State will shortly issue a new executive order intended to broaden the flow of information to the public.

It abolishes the classification "restricted" which has been used as a convenient shield under the security order issued by President Truman in 1951. Twenty-nine government agencies will be prevented from putting out any classified information on documents they originate.

But whether this order will achieve the desired end is open to question. William Benton, former assistant secretary of state and senator from Connecticut, in an analysis in Editor and Publisher magazine points out that the negative side of removing restrictions is not enough. There must be a positive incentive for giving out information.

In times like these caution tends to be the rule. Recently several leaks to newspapermen have an-

gaged officials including, it is reported, the President himself. One of these concerned the tentative decision to give out more atomic information to the public, that got called Operation Candor.

No firm decision had been taken on whether to release the information. But language from a classified document, discussing the possibility of atomic energy, was leaked.

A little later a similar incident stirred a tempest in the Pentagon. Language from a classified document, discussing the possibility of atomic energy, was leaked.

According to current report, the columnist who printed the material on the Air Force is to be prosecuted for leaking information on criminal penalties in connection with the protection of secret American information.

It is believed that the individual a martyr. But, more important, they fear that the effort will be to new essential to public understanding.

The system of leaks and counter-leaks in Washington has a peculiar side. It has been used in past years as an instrument of bureaucratic warfare.

During the battle over unification of the Army and Navy, particularly the last two, dog in the manger tactics were used by all sides. The Navy, the Air Force, the War Department, and the State Department offices to which newspapermen were summoned. All this spread confusion and uncertainty.

CHANG KAI-SHEK

markedly able and courageous former governor of Formosa, K. C. Wu, who joined with Chen Cheng to put through the land reform and to give a voice in government to the Formosan people.

1,000 SURPLUS GENERALS. Again, in the army, the command is very limited. There are nearly 50,000 surplus officers, there are more than 1,000 surplus generals, all intruding for appointment.

1 Disaster by which he, as a Republican, got some of Byrd's support on the national front, while giving Byrd support on the local front.

2 That's what's happening today, however, in the upcoming Virginia election, which the Republicans for the first time since recently have, are given a chance to elect a governor.

What happened was that the Republicans, encouraged by Byrd last year to vote for Eisenhower, have taken him seriously and now propose electing other Republican officials. To do so they picked the late Sen. J. B. Dalton, close friend of Harry Flood Byrd.

The truth is that Dalton was particularly enthusiastic about running. An intimate Byrd, he had enjoyed a cozy political co-operation with Virginia's No.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

SEN. Harry Byrd never dreamed, when he shared a Virginia hunting lodge with the late Sen. J. B. Dalton, that he would turn around and give him the political fruits of his life.

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Republicans Threaten Byrd's Machine

The Republican platform, incidentally, is just the opposite of Byrd's and almost identical with that of Byrd's opponent, Sen. J. B. Dalton.

Observers say it will take a political earthquake to defeat the Byrd machine, but that it is not impossible.

Washington Pipeline. WHEN New Mexico's Sen. Dennis Chavez recently journeyed to Alaska, he was solved to buy something "extra special" for his wife. Finally the senator consulted a handbook and settled on his "extra spe-

cial" gift—a twelve-pound Alaska cabbage.

The three atomic-energy plants at Oak Ridge, Tenn., between KY and Tenn., will produce 600,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity each year.

Every time the Atomic Energy Commission makes a report, it is accompanied by a bill for the taxpayers save between 45 and 50 million dollars.

Lovely Louise Steinhilber Ansbury, daughter of a coal baron, was elected to Congress last year. She is now in Pittsburgh with a view to running for Congress some day.

Asked how the Russians made the mistake of invading Poland, a Polish Mesta into Moscow, Chi Roberts replied, "Maybe they saw Ethel Merman in 'Call Me Madam' and got the two confused."