

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1953

NO APPARENT THREAT TO CONSERVATION

YESTERDAY Secretary of Agriculture Benson reorganized the Department of Agriculture, in accordance with the authority granted him by Congress. He put his plan into effect over the objection of some Congressmen, who wanted at least to hold hearings on the plan before it became effective. Their main charge was that adoption of the plan would kill the soil conservation program.

If we thought the soil conservation program would be killed by this plan we would oppose it. We do not think the conservation program will be endangered by the plan, and approve its adoption.

The plan abolished seven regional offices of the Soil Conservation Service. State offices will be charged with carrying out more of the conservation programs. Adoption of the plan does not affect the amount of money authorized by Congress for soil conservation work. Therefore the change seems to us to be an administrative one, which a department head ought to be entitled to make.

We discount as political prattling a good deal of the opposition to the reorganization. After all, when the Democrats were in power, President Roosevelt opposed granting of power to Democratic Secretary of Agriculture Brannan. Now the shoes are on the other foot.

We are, however, somewhat disturbed by the demotion of Soil Conservation Chief Robert M. Salter and the opposition to the plan of W. S. Davis Jr., president of the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts, and other members of his organization.

A HANDICAP TO DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOUTH

THE Committee of the South is an organization of southerners formed in 1949 under the chairmanship of the late J. Melville Broughton, former North Carolina governor and senator. It grew from a desire, on the part of members of its parent organization, the National Farmers Association, to utilize the South's great reservoir of undeveloped lands, untapped markets and manpower. The committee's purpose, as stated by its chairman, E. W. Palmer of Kingsport, Tenn., is not to do anything, but to make recommendations. Rather, it is to report objectively on existing conditions. It believes "we need to know where we stand so that we can fully develop and use our human resources."

Yesterday the committee released four studies of Negro employment in the upper South, in the city of Durham, N. C., in 16 tobacco manufacturing plants, 70 textile mills, and Southern Railway. Donald Dewey, Duke University economics professor who wrote the report, said the study warranted these four general observations:

1. Negroes are totally excluded from white collar jobs in white-managed plants. No Negro stenographer or filing clerk was found.

2. Negroes hold almost no supervisory jobs. Only three plants studied had Negro foremen.

3. It is uncommon for whites and Negroes to be given the same type job within one plant. Where they do perform the same work there is no discrimination in pay.

4. Racial division in employment has been "remarkably stable" for a long period of time.

The report notes that "perhaps the most disturbing feature" of Southern economic development which the study revealed is the difficulty faced by Negroes in securing advancement, in getting upgraded to a better job.

This report does not go into the individual histories of Negroes who qualified for upgrading and did not obtain it. Other recent studies, however, indicate that a considerable number of these Negroes go North, and that some have been there some time after receiving a considerable amount of training at the expense of southern schools and industries.

This trek of talented southern Negroes to the North, because they cannot obtain employment for which they are trained in the South, constitutes a considerable waste of southern resources. It is a problem that cannot be solved hastily. But will, we hope, receive attention from the Committees of the South, and from southern employers.

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People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of this Editor. The News reserves the right to condense.

Doesn't Like News' Politics

MT. PLEASANT, N. C. I HAVE been reading The Charlotte News every day for 30 years. I like it very much, except for its politics. You harped all last year about a two-party system for the South. You helped put the White House and Jones in the House of Representatives. I thought you would be satisfied. But Saturday you started that "two-party" business again. I am getting tired reading about a two-party system for the South. Why don't you advocate a one-party system for the country as a whole? It wouldn't surprise me at all to see you come out against segregation.

K. M. COOK

Likely UA Supplement

CHARLOTTE YOUR United Appeal supplement was wonderful in every respect. I am confident that it will have a great effect on the success of the campaign. On behalf of United Appeal I would like to express my sincere thanks for the superb cooperation of the Public Information Committee received from Mr. Griffith, Dick Young Jr. and other members of your staff. They spared no effort to make the supplement an outstanding success. It seems to me that The Charlotte News is forever tackling projects of this nature which contribute so much to the well-being of our city.

THOMAS G. LYNCH
Chairman, Public Information Committee, United Appeal

Whisky, Wrecks And Women

CHARLOTTE T is murdered or killed in wrecks, and whisky is to blame. It is being said on most every corner that the cause of the wreck is whisky, and they can go all over town and buy a gallon at any ABC store. You had to be allowed to buy a pint. It has caused more broken homes, more deaths and unhappiness than anything else. The day is coming when every man who is unkind to his wife and coasts out with other women and drinks will suffer. Everyone reams about it now. And blame the whisky for it. The whisky to be bought. Some day they will pay.

MRS. MAYME BARGER

Yes Sir, Still A Democrat

CHESTER, S. C. I NOTICE a Charlotte reader types me as a person who favors a one-party system, and I wish to state here and now I am still a Democrat and proud of it. I am not sitting straddle the fence waiting to jump on the band wagon that's popular in the capital. What has the party in power ever done for the common man of the South or anywhere else? Yes, I am a one-party man, for the party that helps all the people.

J. A. GRABAM

Too Much Loose Spending

PITTSBORO BROWNING here and giving their If that's the case, I do not have enough money to detect it. Last Monday night it was announced that the U. S. Treasurer would borrow two billion dollars from the banks of the country on eighty-year bonds. On Wednesday night it was announced that we would give Israel 25 million dollars on her relief account of 40 million annually, and I am sure it is a team with the majority campaign in New York City, as the Republican candidate made it very plain to the administration that he would have the slightest chance of election with Israel penalized for her non-observance of the true treaty with the Arabs with respect to the use of the waters of the Jordan, there being no Arabs in the great American metropolitan.

But let's look at the over-the-counter for a moment. The above mentioned borrowing by the U. S. Treasurer brings the national debt right up against the debt limitation of 275 billion dollars. That's

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON AMBASSADOR Clare Boothe Luce, who can be as sharp-tongued as she is charming, had a blunt conversation with the Italian Premier Pella the other day in which she told him to quit stirring up the Italian people over Trieste. If he kept on complaining about getting only half of Trieste, Mrs. Luce warned, Italy might end up provoking real trouble with Yugoslavia.

Premier Pella seemed somewhat taken aback by these words from such a beautiful lady. However, he didn't say much in reply.

Luce, wife of the Time-Life Fortune publisher, did not call on Premier Pella on her own. She was under specific orders from the State Dept. to do so for some time has been irritated by Pella. Talking to friends the other day, Dulles said in effect:

Jaypees And Speeders

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. Editors, The News: This is a request for publicity: not for myself, but for a glaring miscarriage of justice, and a very palpable crack compared to which the old-fashioned "filing square" are obsolete and fade into insignificance. I refer to an incident which befell me over a recent weekend.

Meeting my family returning from a European tour at New York, we were returning home via the Southern route and approaching Chattanooga from the East. While still in North Carolina we were arrested for exceeding the legal limit of 55 mph on a straight stretch at the foot of the mountain east of Murphy. The arrest took place within about a mile of the office of the justice of the peace at Andrews, N. C. However, this jaypee had no new idea. His impulse no fine, but misdeed. That, whether I pleaded guilty or not, it made no difference. He was posting me for appearance at the November term of the Superior Court in Cherokee County at Murphy, N. C., and demanded an appearance bond of \$100 which fortunately I was able to post.

One's driving habits are hard to change. What is legal in Arkansas and Tennessee (which has no maximum speed limit) is illegal elsewhere. On reaching Chattanooga I inquired of a service station proprietor about all this and was informed this is a very common occurrence in North Carolina and Georgia, which is adjacent to Chattanooga. The law is a very serious one in these states. Very competent local legal aid advises me to make no attempt to recover any portion of the \$100 bond. This I did. This 1947 jaypee in North Carolina by appearing for my arrest.

HERBERT H. SULLIVAN, M.D.
Col. USAF (Ret.)

Mrs. Luce Was Stern With Premier Pella

"We offered Pella half of Trieste and now he's stirring up the Italians to demand all of Trieste. He was told in advance that Trieste was to be given to Italy. Now he's playing politics and making a fool of himself. He's stirring up the Italian people over Trieste. If he kept on complaining about getting only half of Trieste, Mrs. Luce warned, Italy might end up provoking real trouble with Yugoslavia."

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American Policy In Formosa Simply Does Not Make Sense

By JAMES MARLOW

TAIPEI, FORMOSA IF ANYONE can trace a connecting thread of logic in the current American policy in Formosa, he is a far better man than this reporter. What has been done, however, is a very useful purpose. But what we are doing now just does not make sense. The statement may seem extreme, but it is unfortunately justified by the facts. As to the past, American aid came just in time to prevent the Generalissimo's government from collapsing from sheer economic annihilation. Keeping Formosa out of enemy hands was certainly well worth doing. But as to the present, considering for a moment what the situation really is like.

First of all, American aid has now reached a level where the American taxpayer is footing more than three fifths of the annual bill for keeping Formosa under the Chinese. The purchase of the Chinese budget is about 200 million dollars (\$200,000,000), of which 90 million are miraculously credited to pay and maintain more than 500,000 men in uniform. American aid to the tune of more than 300 million dollars pays the rest of the bill for the armed forces and provides a little economic support as well.

It is a life bargain to get 21 divisions, 8 air groups and other military armaments for 200 million dollars when a single American division costs 200 million dollars. The Chinese purchase of the bargain just because they are bankrupt is a short road to bankruptcy. The antique, halfhearted stand may be the lowest of all stands at the price. The Chinese are not getting anything out of the bargain. They have no use for the thing itself.

Just this way, our policy makers have not troubled to think, or perhaps have not dared to think, how these Chinese forces on Formosa are to be used. And for that precise reason, the program here is in danger of getting into the lowest of all stands at the price. The Chinese are not getting anything out of the bargain. They have no use for the thing itself.

On the one hand, "return to the mainland" is the whole idea of the Formosa government. But if the American purpose is to use these Chinese forces effectively, there are certain painful steps that must be taken and certain unpalatable sacrifices must be made. For one thing, if we want his forces to be used effectively, we must let them have a say in the matter. The Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek is on the record.

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'Government By Commission' Has Several Disadvantages

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON IN LESS than a year President Eisenhower has set up a dozen or so committees, commissions, advisory groups, boards and panels to help him administer his policies and programs.

Outstanding men have been appointed to study such national and international problems as defense and foreign trade and then suggest what to do for the best interest of the country.

The theory, Eisenhower may be in as much of a dilemma after one of these groups has taken up its task as he was because of a couple of questions that were there before he called in the advisers:

1. Can any man who considered a problem for years and probably more look at it with an open mind and decide the President asked him to?

2. And what is the "best interest of the United States"? Finding that all members of a commission are sincere, there can still be a wide difference among them as to what's good for the country.

Such a difference appears in one of the most important advisory groups, the 17-man committee on foreign economic policy—long before it has finished its job. The committee is studying the Reciprocity Trade Act, which means telling Eisenhower and Congress what tariffs on foreign goods are coming here to compete with American products should be higher or lower than the ones now in effect. This 1947 committee is the President's authority to lower tariffs through in exchange for lower tariffs on American goods

exported to countries sending products there.

The chairman of this tariff study committee, the Generalissimo B. Randall, chairman of the board of the Inland Steel Co., has been quoted as telling his commission colleagues he was attempting to preserve an open mind and was urging them to do the same. In a presidential "faith," published Oct. 27, Randall said America's traditionally high tariff policy was a steady study of the imperative of the need for a "broadened world trade."

The word "broad" was flung at the committee by a number of industries, trade associations and labor groups, who want higher tariffs because, they say, they're being hurt by imports because the President asked him to.

This organization passed a resolution calling on Eisenhower to fire Randall from the trade commission. The other members of the commission are sincere, there can still be a wide difference among them as to what's good for the country.