

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1953

THE 22 WHO HAVE GONE ASTRAY

TODAY was probably the last day for 22 American soldiers to decide whether they will stay with the Communists or come home.

With the explanation sessions, over the attempts to get prisoners back, or at least to get them to hear the U. S. viewpoint, officially will be listed as AWOL. After 30 days they'll be designated as deserters.

The story of the 22 has been a heart-rending finale to the prisoner exchange which, as a whole, convincingly demonstrated that men who are free to make a choice choose freedom.

"Freedom," he wrote, "is where you get an out if you like it. Freedom is where, if you don't like it, you are at liberty to go away."

We have been concerned over whether or not the 22 had the liberty to go away, whether those of the 22 who might want to quit communism could do so.

Perhaps if these men had not surrendered their right to hear both sides of an argument some of them would have returned. Although they are few in number, their absence makes the heart grow heavy.

It is in the nature of people who hold individual freedom precious to rejoice over the return of one who has gone away, but in the words of the parable, "of the ninety and nine which went not astray," Let us never relax that regard for individual freedom.

EMPHASIS ON THE GREATER VALUES

DAVIDSON COLLEGE is following a wise course in modifying its athletic program to fit its financial resources.

The policy was decided upon some time ago. In general, Davidson will schedule games with colleges that have roughly the same scholarship programs and athletic standards.

Back in the '20s, Davidson was the Little David of North Carolina. At least once a year, and sometimes often, Davidson knocked off one or more of the Goliaths. In 1928, Davidson was Big 5 football champion.

A CHANCE FOR DEMOCRACY TO PRODUCE

THE Eisenhower administration has not been neglectful of hemispheric problems while concentrating on Europe and the Far East.

Secretary Cabot suggested a five-point program to help gain our objectives in the Caribbean:

- 1. An expanding trade promoted by stability in laws and terms.
2. The continuing investment of American private capital in the countries favoring such investment.
3. Native capital in the Caribbean is woefully inadequate.
4. Direct aid for such major mutually beneficial projects as the Inter-American Highway.
5. The dissemination of know-how through scholarships, training centers, etc.

The Eisenhower administration will be faced with a budgetary problem of huge proportions during the coming session of Congress.

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People's Platform

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150 Million Innocents Hurt

PERHAPS many people feel that "guilty by association" and "conviction without trial" may be well-worn expressions.

One need not look far to find an innocent person who may be hurt by these practices. An incident that happened to Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam after his "association" with the House Un-American Activities Committee is mentioned.

We therefore, can make much closer to home and find someone who, though innocent, is being hurt by these practices.

According to the Declaration of Independence, "all men are created equal;... they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights;... life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

There may have been some good derived from the practices of "guilty by association" and "conviction without trial."

Whether his right-wing GOP colleagues in Red China, if China is ever to look a more reasonable attitude toward the West.

JUPITER AT TWILIGHT

THERE CAN BE a luxurious slowness in the way a countryman putters around with his chores in these afternoons of early dark.

It keeps the same candlepower. His allmanc tells him Jupiter has a bunch of satellites—even more than the Kremlin.

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By JAMES MARLOW

WHAT is happening in France is not democracy, but paralysis. The French Secretary of State Dulles has just stuck another needle in the patient to see if somehow he can make him jump.

Once more he has told the French that unless they join a single European army, the United States may have to revise its plans for the defense of Europe.

If EDC became a reality, France, West Germany and the other 10 countries of the EDC would have to wear the same uniform, be under a unified command, act as a single army.

One of the main ideas behind EDC with French troops in a single army, neither would be able to build individual armies to make war on each other.

Main reason for French delay in approving EDC is Germany presently is unarmed. France fears seeing her rear end, all even to a limited extent in any way being side with French troops.

This country has six divisions in Europe. The French want more troops in it. They would all wear the same uniform, be under a unified command, act as a single army.

32 New 'Advisory Groups' Draw Fire From Democrats

By CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY

WASHINGTON ARE THE President and Congress stalling or merely taking proper precaution when they "appoint a commission" to study a problem?

Political lines have been drawn too sharply on the commission question. It seems likely to be a campaign point in 1954. Democrats, generally, charge that such commissions are a device to delay and means loss of time in making key decisions.

CANDIDATES' VIEWS "When in doubt, appoint a commission; and the areas of doubt are very wide."

Committee to Study Anti-Trust Laws (Attorney General Herbert Brownell Jr.)

Committee to Study Reorganization of the Department of the Navy (Secretary Robert B. Anderson)

Committee on Organization of the Federal Reserve Branch of the Government (Dec. 21)

Committee on Intergovernmental Relations (Dec. 19)

Committee on the Federal Reserve (Dec. 9)

Committee on Foreign Economic Policy (Dec. 15)

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Nixon Did A Good Job On His World Tour

Premier Nehru was so impressed that he immediately wired the President congratulating him on his trip to India.

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Kissing Babies

IN Japan, Nixon got off to a bad and semibumorous start when he stopped a heavy 100-car parade of young boys and girls to kiss a couple of cute Japanese babies.

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