

THOMAS L. ROBINSON... Publisher
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A Noxious By-Product Of Urban Life

THAT October nip in the air contains something more than the threat of frost, icicles and the first snowflake. It also means that Charlotte's smoke problem will be getting progressively worse day by day. This noxious by-product of modern urban life is probably present all year round in the Queen City's atmosphere but it is particularly unpleasant when the days turn crisp and cold and the soot and ash particles settle ground over metropolitan landscapes like a shroud.

Some Charlotteans are not waiting for a real smoke siege. It is gratifying to learn that a Chamber of Commerce group is already developing new plans to combat Charlotte's municipal air pollution. This should crank up its smoke control program again. The project was discussed last Thursday at a meeting of the chamber's appearance and improvement committee and members have had no time in getting to work on the problem.

The smoke—or smog, as it has come to be called—that hangs over America's cities is a man-created hazard. Your automobile, the backyard incinerator, the factory stack belching smoke are all contributory causes. Smog is worst when there is a warm air lid over a layer of cool air—which, in the absence of wind, traps smoke, tars, gasoline vapors, fly ash and other pollutants and holds them close to earth. The area most affected by smog in the United States is Los Angeles and its suburbs. These communities have just been through nearly two weeks of this nuisance in concentrated form. New York had a severe smog problem last fall. So did Philadelphia and industrial New Jersey.

The smog capital of the world is London. During one panicky fog-bound week some 19 months ago, thousands of people died from the particles that drifted out of the city. Yes, smog can kill! It is concentrated enough. Mager White, science writer for the LOS ANGELES EXAMINER, reports that California doctors polled there found smog damaged health in 18 different classifications—from eyes, throat, heart, lungs and brain to the skin. The problem can be licked. Pittsburgh did it. This sprawling Pennsylvania metropolis now has one of the best "air conditioned" industrial areas in the nation.

What Do You Think About The Stink?

THERE was this lady who works at the Charlotte Filter Center, which watches out for Red bombers and, incidentally, needs some volunteers. She said that people have called or come around and said something like this: "Put me down. I'll help any way I can to get rid of that Sugaw Creek stink." After all, there are all kinds of centers in the news, and filters are more closely associated with sewage problems than with Red bombers.

But then this man leaned across to our table at lunch. He pointed to the editorial (there's no better appetizer than a News editorial) on the Charlotte Historical Society and said, "You know, if this new organization were going to do something about Sugaw Creek, I could get excited about it." Now we don't want to decrease the membership of the Charlotte Historical Society or the number of volunteers at the Filter Center. But the complainants have a point.

Senate Shakeup

WASHINGTON SENATE membership may be revised considerably before a showdown vote comes on the proposal to renege Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.), according to Congressional Quarterly. When the caucus session begins Nov. 8, at least 10 senators will be serving by appointment—and election authorities in several states may be in position to call the turn for a political version of the old game of musical chairs. In some cases state and federal laws are contradictory. Conflicts over seats might result.

New Judges For McCarthy

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A Common Enemy Confronts Mankind

"IF MY weather eye is correct," said Rep. Harold C. Ostertag, "there is an increasing tide running in the direction of the 'Fortress America' concept." The New York Republican added triumphantly that the idea that America's safety lies in dependence on other nations is at least being cut down to size. "In its place," said he, "there is coming into being the ancient and honorable truth that our strength lies in ourselves..."

Mankind is now confronted with a common enemy—the ignorance and confusion in man's own heart. Unless enough men realize that Donne's bell tolls for all mankind, some other breed of animals may have to take over the earth — or what's left of it. Man's only hope rests in unity and cooperation with other men. If we embrace the "Fortress America" concept the nation may awake some stormy morning to find itself back in the Neolithic Age.

Opera Can Have A Southern Draw

FOR MORE than 70 years, New York's staid old Metropolitan Opera has dominated vocal music in the United States. Even when trapped in the jaws of an economic nutcracker, its cultural despotism has never wavered. Financial troubles plaguing music's Grand Old Lady are again becoming acute. Some of the big names may gasp and die—and it is entirely possible that the cause of operatic music in America will rest suddenly in the hands of a few second string houses and vigorous "provincial" groups like the Charlotte Opera Association.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THEY did not want anything published about it, but the Jenner Internal Security Committee has been conducting a very hush-hush examination of Henry Morgenthau's famous diary. The idea is to make headlines before election day with something that will connect members of the Roosevelt administration with Harry Dexter White and any tinge of Russian espionage. To this end, Jonathan Mitchell, husband of famed feminist Doris Stevens, has been up at Hyde Park, where the lengthy diary of the former secretary of the treasury is kept. Though the Jenner committee probably won't appreciate any probing into its probing, this column has obtained copies of some of Mitchell's reports and so far he hasn't struck much pay dirt. In one confidential report to the Jenner committee, Mitchell states: "Last week I got through only 14 volumes. I was held back by documents of British and French lend-lease. Since White was in charge of these negotiations, I hoped to find material of interest to the committee. But in fact, although I read the documents with great care, I found very little."

PLEASE DRAW, Y'ALL

MISS TENNESSEE, a comely lass who won a \$1,000 scholarship for finishing among the top 10 in the recent Miss America contest, is reported in the press as saying she will use prize money as tuition at the Pasadena Playhouse. Her reason: "To get rid of my southern accent which I don't think would go well on television." Come now, Miss Tennessee! Do you really mean you are seriously planning to eliminate the sugar from your speech? Can it be that you wish to renege your education so as to head off like every other young and beautiful girl in television or the movies? Is it your desire to conform to a pattern of speech that will render you indistinguishable in the mob? Can it be that you want to swap your purr for a burr? If your speech is as heavily coated with sargum as some I have heard, or if you can't carry a final "g" in a bushel basket, I have no criticism to offer except your intention "to get rid" of the accent. Dear Miss Tennessee, don't get rid of it—modify it. I'll go along with you on the theory that an authentic bottom land cornfield southern accent wouldn't go well on television or in the movies. As you know, Honey, most of us in the South do not speak as if we were holding a mouthful of hot mush—but some do. And on this basis I can sympathize with your ambition. But you certainly don't want to be indoctrinated with the nasal twang of New England or the flattened speech of the Midwest. That would be as disastrous as maintaining the status quo provided the status is too syrupy and the quo is wrapped in flannel. I trust, however, that you realize the most pleasing enunciation of all is the southern accent that has been modified by putting a slight corner on the "R's" and retaining a suspicion of the final "g."

Diaries Are Secret

Hiberto the Morgenthau diaries have never been scrutinized by outsiders. They are probably the most carefully kept of any record of the hectic and vitally important years of the Roosevelt administration. Morgenthau noted in great detail everything he did during the years he was secretary of the treasury—and he held that post longer than any other man in history. The diary detail is even more voluminous than that of the late Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes. The diaries are locked in the Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park and are not open to public examination. However, Morgenthau, when questioned by the Jenner committee about Harry Dexter White, who was accused by Attorney General Brownell of being a Russian spy, offered to let the Jenner committee examine his diaries. Morgenthau said he knew of no evidence that White was a spy during his association at the Treasury, and he offered to let the Jenner committee examine any part of his records. Simultaneously, Sen. Knowland's office has been pushing the State Department to publish all diplomatic documents dealing with the Yalta conference, in the hope that some clue regarding the operations of Alger Hiss might be forthcoming. The State Department, though under a Republican administration, so far has refused to fix a publication date prior to election, despite an urgent request by Knowland's floor assistant, Bill Reed.

Morgenthau Diaries Under Scrutiny

As already well published, Morgenthau's diary is apparently due to be published in the near future. It is a diary of the closing days of the war in ill-reputed Russian confidence. As already well published, Morgenthau's diary is apparently due to be published in the near future. It is a diary of the closing days of the war in ill-reputed Russian confidence. As already well published, Morgenthau's diary is apparently due to be published in the near future. It is a diary of the closing days of the war in ill-reputed Russian confidence.

Newspaper Pals

Mitchell, when questioned by this writer, was most loath to talk. Asked when his report would be published, Mitchell ducked. "You and I were reporters together for a long time," he said, doubtless referring to the fact that he had been a reporter on the old New York World. Mitchell also served as Wash-

Archaic Rules For Prisoners Of War Should Be Softened

By ROBERT C. RUARK NEW YORK

IT SEEMS to me that we are going to have to call on a validly American asset, namely a sense of humor, and do a little rewrite job on the archaic rules for the conduct of prisoners of war, and relax the stern admonition about name, rank, dogtag and nothing else. The recent wave of courts-martial for "collaboration" with the enemy, which still haven't finished, suggested that brain washing equipment for Communist indoctrination for prisoners in their handling of prisoners. And that he fails to collaborate gets the standard treatment. The guy who won't play is a hero if he lives. The man who does play with the captors is tried when he gets loose and comes home.

Let the captured, when asked, say yes to all. If they ask you if Jackie Gleason invented the H-Boys, you say sure. What germs, past the common cold, are we using? Everything, and I cultured 'em myself. What did you build em up with? Sugar and spice and a low culture. THE REDS DOOD IT Go on the radio! Sure? Where's the TV? Maybe Godfrey is looking. Who started the war? Me, or myself. You're a home! Is it really true that the Americans invented sex? Oh, no, sir. The Russians dood it. Or didn't they? I can't remember. What I mean is, after Mr. Eden's commitment of all the reds, he's a heart, it doesn't make a great deal of difference what one POW says if it'll make the turkey happy. So you might as well give the ladies carte blanche to collaborate, if it'll get 'em a little more rice. It can't hurt. And if it will prevent some thug from pounding on the head of a man who is the victim of circumstance.

Senators Should Be Brief

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication at the discretion of the editors. The News reserves the right to condense. If mothers want their sons sent where they will be captured and inducted in Communist prisons camps, let them go home and tried as traitors simply because they took what seemed to them as the only way out of a bad situation then, by means, turn the affairs of your government back to the Democrats. They know how to handle the affairs of the blood of American boys. American boys are now on patrol over nearly half the face of the earth, and the Democrats sent them there. — R. D. JOHNSTON

Unfair Pressure Put On State Employees

YOU are to be commended for your recent editorial regarding requests by the state Democratic machine for donations by state employees to the party campaign. This is the kind of dishonest politics that comes from one-party rule and it is a disgrace to the state of North Carolina. Gov. Woodard's statement that he saw nothing wrong with such requests is certainly not designed to eliminate such dishonest tactics and abuse of power. It is apparent that party loyalty rather than ability sets the standards for state employees. The governor's statement that he will not stand for any compulsion falls far short of the need to repudiate the whole idea. Anyone with a grain of sense knows that a supervisor's request to those employees under his supervision is tantamount to a fore he destroys himself! At times, it seems doubtful if any employee will be forced to contribute to protect his job. Prompt action is needed by the legislature to squelch this thing now, once and for all. We as citizens need to write him protesting such abuse of elective power. — CHARLES EUREY

Democratic Policies All 'Lead To War'

THE fathers and mothers of a America want to raise their voice to fight, bleed and die in foreign battlefields, all they need do is give control of their government to such men as Truman, Stevenson, Barkley, Douglas, Roosevelt and Sam Rayburn. Within the last 100 years we've fought five wars, and every one occurred during, or immediately following, Democratic administration. That proves conclusively

Civilization Rushing Toward Destruction

FROM THE atom bomb to the hydrogen bomb to what? Will man ever stop in his frantic quest for the tools of destruction before he destroys himself? At times, it seems doubtful if any Pyramids, old tombs, temples, and ruins in many parts of the world tell of highly developed civilizations that are long gone. There is plenty of unmistakable evidence of great people who have come, set up governments, flourished for a time, and then faded away. Conquest by other nations, or conflicting forces within their own, split them apart and made them easy prey. Can we not learn something from their history? These pressures are becoming serious in our own time. Our leaders are now in the process of abandoning diplomacy and resorting to arms. We have the United Nations, but we also have an international race for the arms. We have the finest trained brains in the world are being used to devise means to subdue the minds of others or to bring about the threat of death. It is a headlong flight of fear. — WM. D. HOFFMAN