

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Red, Anti-Red, Anti-Anti - Red

HARVEY MATUSOW is back in the news. Thereby hangs a tortuous tale of a young man's prostitution and a government's dereliction. Still in his twenties, Matusow joined the Communist Party after World War II. He drew a salary from the party and from Communist bookshop groups. He joined many Communist fronts. Then he started furnishing information about Communists, and people he concluded were Communists, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He was booted out of the party. So Harvey became a professional anti-Communist. He worked as an investigator for the Ohio Un-American Activities Commission. He wrote exposes like his "Reds in Khaki," which appeared in the AMERICAN LEADER MAGAZINE. He testified frequently before congressional investigating committees, and for the government. In his prosecution of Communists, he appeared in several states, during the 1952 campaign, on behalf of conservative senatorial candidates. And as he spoke, his stories about communism, like Rep. Douglas Stringfellow's stories about his wartime exploits, grew and grew. Almost everywhere Harvey looked, he saw Communists. We say almost because once he did concede, in answer to a question, that he didn't think two church groups, Catholics and Mormons, were Red-infiltrated. He saw hundreds of Communists among high school teachers, 500 in New York City alone, and told one audience that "you must be a member of the Communist Party" to write for radio in New York City. The press, too, was Red. He swore, before Sen. Pat McCarran—who didn't even question the statement—that 76 Communists worked for TIME. He reported 25 Reds in one

AP bureau. His count of the Reds working for the New York TIMES grew and grew until his total number of "Communists" in one of the TIMES' departments exceeded by 39 the total number of employees in the department. Eventually his excesses were too much for even the members of congressional investigating committees who had accepted his testimony. When asked by newsmen about Matusow, some of them grew silent, and shook their heads. He had been booted out of the anti-Communist camp. So Harvey became a professional anti-Communist. He went to the office of a Democratic senator he had maligned during the 1952 campaign. He said he had had a change of heart and offered to turn the senator's state again, eating his words. The offer was not accepted. Harvey went to Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, who he had also maligned. Harvey asked forgiveness, plus \$1,500 to help get his book, THE WONDERS OF MCCARTHY: BLACKLISTING IS MY BUSINESS, published. This week, Bishop Oxnam said he was astounded that Attorney General Herbert Brownell Jr. rely on the testimony of a person like Harvey Matusow in any legal proceeding. But so far, at least, the convictions, the charges and insinuations which rest in part upon Red, then anti-Red, then anti-anti-Red Harvey Matusow still stand. The Justice Department has taken no official action against this leading practitioner of perjury. Perhaps the Justice (a hollow phrase) Department lawyers are still too busy trying to hang a nebulous perjury count on Owen Lattimore.

Corn As High As An Elephant's Eye

THE overwhelming approval Tar Heel farmers gave the state's Nickels For Know-How program reflects the progressive spirit flowering today in North Carolina agriculture. On the basis of near-complete returns, it appears that approximately 94 per cent of the voters—users of feed and fertilizer—wanted to continue the program for another three years. Under the Nickels For Know-How plan, five cents is assessed on each ton of feed and fertilizer used in the state. The money is used to finance agricultural research. Through last June, the program had raised \$391,000. Nickels For Know-How money is already financing 38 research and educational projects at North Carolina State College. The story of man's rise from savagery to civilization is really the story of the struggle to wrest food from the soil. Down through history, he has faced staggering obstacles. Despite great advances, many of the plagues are still with us. If disease doesn't wipe out the farmer's crop, insects may. If a drought doesn't burn up the land, a flood may wash it away. Weeds may steal the nourishment from useful plants. The soil itself may wear out. It means a continuing struggle, a continuing battle with nature. Some frightening facts face mankind today. The world's average, on which crops can be grown is surprisingly small and the prospects of adding to it substantially are rather remote. Actually, the 2½ billion acres now

growing the world's food represent only two per cent of the earth's surface. The remainder is covered by water, mountains, desert, jungles, ice and snow or rocky soil unfit for cultivation. The tiny patch of land growing man's food must serve a world population of some 2,400,000,000. And that population is growing at the rate of approximately 18 million people a year. As a matter of fact, world population has jumped 25 per cent in the last two decades while world food production has increased only five per cent. To surmount the needs of the world must grow bigger and better crops on the land they now farm. In the United States there is a happier story. While this nation's population has grown 13 per cent in 20 years, American food production has soared 50 per cent. How is this possible? The answer lies in technological progress. Technology has brought to the American farm an era of vast productivity and fruitfulness. A single chemist employing advanced techniques of science provides to the U. S. farmer the equivalent of armies of field hands—at a ridiculously small cost. This is the sort of progress the nickels of North Carolina farmers will be buying for the next three years. It means that heavier and heavier scientific guns can be brought into the fight to halt nature's onslaughts and increase North Carolina's agricultural abundance. The challenge is great but the research forces now being marshaled to meet and overcome it are greater.

—And The Frost Is On The Pigskin

CHARLOTTE may decide within the next 10 days whether it wants to become a major Carolina sports center or a minor whistle stop on the collegiate athletic trail. Two major football attractions have been booked for Legion Memorial Stadium—the Davidson-Furman game Friday night and the Wake Forest-Clemson game Saturday afternoon, Oct. 30. The turnout for these interstate clashes will, to a large extent, determine whether Charlotte will get more major college gridiron contests in the near future. The Queen City has provided a big box office for college football games recently. Attendance has been to put it mildly, disappointing. Games that should have drawn overflow crowds just didn't. This season Charlotte is on trial as a sports capital. Either a good crowd turns up for these two games or they

may be yanked away. Clemson, with arms of football-hungry alumni in its own backyard, would hardly want to play to only a few thousand fans in Charlotte when it could play to a full house at home. Football is, after all, big business. The money it brings in must pay for all minor sports and intramural athletic programs at most colleges and universities. We would hate to see Charlotte lose the few major college games it has now. We would like to see more teams come back to Charlotte—Duke and Carolina, for instance. The Queen City has the population and the facilities for an outstanding outdoor sports program. Charlotte already loyally supports a professional baseball team—even when it loses. It should support college football as well. It would be doing itself a favor. You can't get most flavor out of the stone, our authority admits. But the gravy is magnificent. Buyer—you swindler! When you sold me this farm, you said I could grow nuts on it. Seller—you misunderstood me—said you could go nuts on it.—GREENEVILLE (TENN.) SUN, 10/21/54

McCarthyism's Death Rattle

Curing A National Neurosis

By JOSEPH ALSOP

WASHINGTON THE enemies of Joseph R. McCarthy may well be wrong to look forward so eagerly to the Senate vote on censure of Wisconsin's junior senator. The thing has to be gone through with, of course; yet a special Senate session to consider McCarthy's misdeeds will inevitably bring him back to the center of the stage. As of today, he has ceased to be a leading actor in the national drama. He is already discredited with a large majority of Americans. Using an old high school phrase, it would be almost better to leave him lay where they flung him.

This is the first conclusion suggested by fairly extensive inquiries in Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, the three states which ought to be heart of the imaginary McCarthy country. TOP ACHIEVEMENTS One of the real achievements of the Eisenhower administration, apparently, is curing the national neurosis that was produced for so long by McCarthy's demagoguery, the Truman administration's maladroitness, and the foolish wartime misjudgments of the Communist Party's character. There may be — in fact there is — much that is abhorrent and downright un-American in the methods of the current governmental hunt for security risks. But at least the country has now stopped looking for Communists under the bed. People have waked up to the fact that an Army den-

list, however pink, is considerably less dangerous to this republic than the armed might of the Soviet Union. That was what the President hoped for, and he seems to have achieved it. ARISE, SWEET SLEEPERS Besides the President's efforts, two other processes have been at work to cure McCarthy down to size. On the one hand, many rich and influential Republicans used to regard McCarthy in much the same way that the vestry of Trinity Church 75 years ago regarded its vast real estate holdings — as perhaps not very nice but highly profitable. The ideas of these people, who formerly gave McCarthyism a sort of false respectability, have been a rapidly changing by the naked disclosure of McCarthy's enmity to Eisenhower.

On the other hand — and most important of all — the events of the last six months have taught rich and poor alike what kind of man McCarthy really is. After the McCarthy-Army hearings, the Watkins committee finished the job. A very wise farmer in what had once been a strongly pro-McCarthy district of Wisconsin summed the result up rather neatly: SICK AND TIRED You couldn't see those six men's pictures in the paper and think they were secretly soft on communism. You just had to listen to them. Hereabouts, the great majority used to be for Joe. Now most people are sick and

tired of him, and the minority that stick by him are kind of ashamed of it. One might distrust the evidence of a large but casually gathered sample of many hundreds of Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota voters. But no one can argue away the evidence of the behavior of the Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota politicians. If any politician could any longer believe that McCarthy was a political asset, then some politician somewhere in this alleged McCarthy country would be trying to work the asset for what it might be worth. Nobody is doing so. WHY BRING IT UP? On the contrary, the Republican Senate candidate in Illinois, Joe Meek, who ran in the primary as an overt McCarthyite, now shrugs and coughs and asks "why bring that up?" If any one wants to know where he stands on the Wisconsin senator, still more strikingly, Wisconsin's junior McCarthy, Rep. Charles Kersten, is highly aggrieved because his opponent, Henry Reuss, has insisted on making McCarthy a major issue in the campaign. And Kersten's Milwaukee district is the only district in all three midwestern states where McCarthy is an issue. All the Democratic candidates except Reuss have preferred to avoid offending the remaining McCarthyite minority, just as all Republicans have consistently including Kersten, have wanted to avoid offending the anti-McCarthyite majority.

Joseph R. McCarthy is another dead duck. By tacit consent the senator who evoked a nation-wide epidemic of political cowardice in 1952. His admirers are still making a noise in some places, such as New Jersey, but are probably benefiting the men they attack. When this conflict re-emerges it will take the form of an effort by the Republican right wing to control the national committee and the national conven-

tion machinery. One of the interesting aspects of the campaign to a Washington correspondent is how hard it is to find traces of McCarthy's major support last spring, Sen. Everett Dirksen. No LITTLE LIGHT Sen. Dirksen is chairman of the GOP Senate Campaign Committee and probably is very busy. But he is keeping out of the limelight where his pro-McCarthy activities could now be used to hurt his candidates. A good guess is that the candidates planned that way. Democrats freely concede that the "mess in Washington" and the charge of softness toward communism hurt them two years ago. They are not afraid of them now. A Democratic effort to make foreign policy an issue has fallen flat so far. The President has also taken some steps to insure there will be no flare-ups which would ruin his reelection. The campaign is lethargic in large part because these emotional, highly personal, issues have been superseded by economic questions. And there is no doubt the Democratic trend results from the economic picture.

Sen. Joe McCarthy—Leave Him Lay Where They Flung Him!

In Kersten's district, the issue would be hard to avoid. Kersten's character as a junior McCarthyite so far that he even imitates the peculiar tone of voice, half way between Dr. Goebbels and a soap opera, which McCarthy reserved for moments of drama. Two years ago, Kersten's campaign was McCarthy, McCarthy, McCarthy all the way. Kersten's re-election. If this single rather shame-faced McCarthyite candidate in McCarthy's own state goes down to defeat, the political myth surely ought to be punctured. Meanwhile, the most important thing of all is probably the fact that nobody is talking about McCarthy any longer except in the Kersten-Reuss campaign.

Emotional Issues Give Way To Questions Of Cold Cash

By DORIS FLEESON

BOSTON, Mass. THE emotional issues which have carried Senator Dirksen into the White House have receded far into the background if they have not altogether vanished. The traveler finds the story much the same in New England as in the mountain states, the Northwest, California and the Midwest. The American people may not be proud of the trace in Korea but they have apparently thrust that unpopular war into the back of their minds. They seem to have shrilly cut their losses in Indonesia. DEAD DUCK Joseph R. McCarthy is another dead duck. By tacit consent the senator who evoked a nation-wide epidemic of political cowardice in 1952. His admirers are still making a noise in some places, such as New Jersey, but are probably benefiting the men they attack. When this conflict re-emerges it will take the form of an effort by the Republican right wing to control the national committee and the national conven-

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 the editors. The News reserves the right to condense.

To Err Is Human; To Forgive, Divine

Charlotte

Editors, The News: HERE is something I truly believe has caused so many men to be criminals. If they make a mistake, everybody wants to make them an outcast. It also appears to me, if and when you make a mistake, the people try to make believe that you are a criminal.

I made a mistake, not half as bad as some men have made, and I have tried everything. I know to make amends, but when I go to these people, they try to give the impression that I'm nothing but a born criminal. This is the first mistake I have ever made. They have put me in a position where I cannot work to support my wife, baby, mother, and myself. They're making us all suffer, and they

say they don't care. I have been offered two or three jobs, but I could not accept them. I truly don't know what to do. I just think they can get along feeling this way toward their fellow men.

—JAMES H. GRIFFIN

'Pogo's' Holiday Is Protested By Fans

Charlotte Editors, The News: THESE you go again, dropping Pogo's media and a Semat comic. It's just not fair to us "Pogo" fans. We know that you have to make a mistake in an advertisement occasionally. But why not pick on one of the other strips now and then?

"Pogo" is one of the News' most popular features. Don't short-change us, please.

—CHARLIE KEARNS



"The world is divided into two camps . . . me and the world . . ."

Wilson Is A Babe In The Woods

By MARQUIS CHILDS

IN THE business administration which President Eisenhower brought to Washington Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson is the outstanding example of the skilled business organizer and production expert. But, as he has demonstrated by the political road he touched off with his dog story, he is also the outstanding example of the businessman out of his element in the field of politics. Many familiar with the vast operation of the Department of Defense from day when the late James Forrestal took over as the first secretary of defense believe that Wilson has carried through the piling and cutting needed to bring greater efficiency and economy to an organization spread over two-thirds of the huge federal budget. He has sought to keep a civilian rein on the admirals and generals and in particularly on those officers with four and five stars who have favored a far more militant

policy in Asia. If there is a "war party" and "peace party" within the administration, on the issue of Red China and what America should do about the Peking regime, then Wilson is one of the stoutest members of the "peace party." When it comes to politics, however, Wilson is a babe in the woods. The business executive from the top echelon suddenly dropped into the field of government and politics seldom realizes how much he has to learn. As a corporate executive he has been surrounded by expert public relations advisers well paid to screen his every public word. This has left him free to do the job of production and organization in which his genius lies. STAYING STRAIN Wilson is surrounded by expert public relations advisers well paid to screen his every public word. This has left him free to do the job of production and organization in which his genius lies. When he steps out from behind his screen and is more or less on his own before the public he is likely to react in a way that is frankly that is startling. He simply does not understand the political implications of what he is

saying and of how he says it. There are, of course, businessmen who adjust readily to government. A conspicuous example is Eric Johnston, formerly head of the United States Chamber of Commerce and now president of the American Motion Picture Producers Association. Johnston moved from business to government and back again with complete ease and facility. Government, as perhaps even "Engine Charlie" is learning, is a continuing responsibility rather than something that can be tidied up and then left to run itself. Similarly, politics is a serious, unending responsibility which when it is neglected, as so often happens in America, falls into the hands of the bosses and corruptocrats. To ignore these responsibilities, or to hand them on casually and indifferently to hirelings, is to get the kind of government and the kind of politics that are in the end most costly and most destructive of integrity and decency.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON GENEROUS Doug McKay, the likable editor of the Interier, let loose a blast at me the other day for describing him as generous in selling part of the Rogue River National Forest to the private mining company and for considering the releasing of the Navy's and Interior Department's oil reserve in Alaska to private oil company exploitation. This is the first time I have been called a liar by a member of the Eisenhower Cabinet—an "honor" frequently bestowed upon me during the Roosevelt and Truman administrations. The fact that the Eisenhower administration has been so generous has caused me to write to insinuate that perhaps the old man was slipping. Now the fact is—all kidding aside—that I have enjoyed the respect and name-calling under Eisenhower. Though skilled as I am supposed to be, actually I don't relish having this type of bouquet hurled in my direction. And though I am convinced that Secretary McKay has been far too generous with the public domain and will illustrate this point further and more conclusively later, I still don't relish being called names by a

nice guy as Doug McKay. I suppose, however, that this is inevitable. As any newspaperman worth his salt in Washington necessarily must step on people's toes. He must offend people. And he must do so naturally they get mad and hurl epithets. Clifton McKinnon, publisher of the Los Angeles News, asked me the other day when he had charge what I had called him. I had told the truth. Sen. Elmer Thomas of Oklahoma called me a liar when I reported that he had been speculating on the cotton market from his privileged position of chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Two years later the Agriculture Depart-

ment officially confirmed this, and Sen. Thomas was defeated by the people of Oklahoma. Sen. McCarthy of Wisconsin called me a liar and all sorts of other names from the safety of the Senate floor after I reported that he received a \$10,000 fee from Lustron for a brief housing pamphlet. Since then a Senate committee is passing on McCarthy's record has confirmed this up to the hilt. Congressman Parrell Thomas of New Jersey denied kickbacks and called me a liar when he went to jail because of those kickbacks. John Maragon, the influence peddler also called me a liar for exposing his operations, but ended in jail as a result of that expose. Tanforan Racecraft Officials called me a liar and threatened a libel suit when their violation of housing regulations (in connivance with Maragon and Gen. Harry Vaughan) was exposed. They went to jail. President Truman gave a new twist to the liar charge after I criticized his friend and military aide, Gen. Vaughan for accepting an Argentine medal at a time when Dictator Peron was manuever-

ing to get a large loan from the United States. Afterward, Congress refused to approve Vaughan's medal, and a Senate committee found Vaughan guilty of considerable influence wrangling, giving away deep freezes, demoting Army officers who tangled with John Maragon, and getting building materials for the Tanforan Racecraft at a time when veterans were supposed to have preference.

Now I don't want to give the impression that I am always right. I'm not. Being human I make mistakes. But I endeavor when I do make them to correct them.

Anyways of that, I want to correct an unfair impression I gave regarding Congressman Leonor Sullivan of Missouri that other day when I reported that she had inserted 12 pages in the post-congressional Record at some cost to the taxpayers. While she did make the insertion, I now find that it consisted of the full text of the Federal Trade Commission's report on coffee prices, which certainly the housewife should have a chance to read. Mrs. Sullivan's insertion made distribution of the report easier and I am delighted to make this clear.