



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Measurement of World Opinion

THE peaceful, reasonable but massive effect of world opinion has been felt in Peiping. This fact was clearly demonstrated yesterday when Chinese Communist Premier Chou En-lai agreed to meet Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld.

Whether actually stated in Chou's invitation or not, it is reasonable to assume that the case of the 11 imprisoned American airmen will be discussed.

1—For the first time, Red China admits there is indeed something to discuss in this matter.

2—For the first time, it acknowledges that the U.N. has a right to get involved. The old Communist line was well defined by Soviet delegate Jacob Malik last week:

These men (were sent) to commit black, criminal deeds... assigned to them by the United States Intelligence Agency. They were not soldiers... they were spies and diversions.

Therefore, the Reds argued, the airmen did not have prisoner-of-war status and the U.N. did not have competence to argue their case. Furthermore, said the Communist bloc, since the Korean armistice was signed by the leaders of the "Chinese Peoples Volunteers" and not by officials of the Peiping regime, the Chinese government was not bound by it.

But representatives of 47 nations took issue with this argument. They condemned the trial and conviction of the prisoners as illegal and called upon the secretary general to take "continuing and

unremitting steps" to obtain the release of these men. Western delegates emphatically denied the validity of the Communist arguments that Peiping was not really involved in the Korean War.

These were stern voices of men who spoke without fear and threatened no shots were fired. It was a simple protest against indignities and injustice but it had conviction and authority.

It also had force. After what was obviously a propaganda victory for the United States, Chou agreed, "in the interests of peace and the relaxation of international tension," to discuss "pertinent questions."

It is too early to tell how far a discussion of "pertinent questions" will be permitted to go and what the results will be. But obviously every effort should be made to obtain, through negotiation, the release of the Americans illegally imprisoned behind the bamboo curtain.

Much will hinge on these discussions—possibly the whole general direction of America's Far East policy. The administration has been busy fashioning a long range program of economic aid for Asia as a bulwark against Communism.

You can't expect under sharp attack from GOP rightwingers who prefer quicker, more violent methods.

Warlike acts—such as a naval blockade and economic sanctions—would be extremely unwise at the moment. This is no time for reckless violence. It is a time for calm consultation and a free measure of the worldwide voices of free men dedicated to the principle of international justice.

No More Young Whippersnappers?

THE AGE factor is worrying the Democratic high command—and it should. Most of the party's "regulars" are fading graybeards. Few youngsters are being brought along to supply the new blood so necessary for continuing political vitality.

Reluctant chairmanships in the new Democratic-controlled 84th Congress illustrate the point. The chairman of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee will be 87; the Appropriations Committee chairman, 77; Foreign Relations, 76; Interior and Insular Affairs, 78; District of Columbia, 80. The chairman of the important Appropriations Committee in the House will be 75; the Banking and Currency Committee chairman, 79; Armed Services, 70; Rules, 71.

In other times this situation would

have been called gerontocracy—government by old men.

But the problem has another side. Nine senators died during the 83rd Congress. There has been speculation that you can't expect under sharp attack from GOP rightwingers who prefer quicker, more violent methods.

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Ironically, the Democrat whose health has caused the most concern is John F. Kennedy, 37, of Massachusetts.

But the fact remains that if the Democrats expect to build for the future they will have to do one of two things—discover Ponce de Leon's Fountain of Youth or recruit a new army of bright young men to wage tomorrow's political wars.

Man: Late Comer And Early Leaver

Great talk among people how some of the Fascists... at the end of the world is at hand, and that next Tuesday is to be the day. Against which, whenever it shall be, good God be its ill!

WHAT Mr. Pepps went in 1962, we echo rather anxiously today. Doom may indeed be upon us. A jobless college doctor has predicted "cataclysmic events" on Tuesday—disasters, life-threatening tidal waves and other assorted upheavals. Claims he has second-hand contact with outer space.

It won't necessarily be the end of the world, says Dr. Charles Laughhead, but it will be catastrophic as all get-out.

It is entirely in keeping with man's nature to believe that when he goes everything goes. As our old friend E. B. White likes to point out, man commonly thinks of himself as having been here since the beginning—older than the arch—and he also thinks he's destined to stay to the bitter end. Actually, when you get right down to it, man is a late comer and shows every sign of being an early leaver—a performer who bows out after a few gaudy and memorable scenes.

Some ancient mandarin suddenly became bored with the sickly pop his firecracker made and began the original search for a bigger bang for a buck.

This led to the cannon and the cannon led to a bigger cannon and finally someone decided to beat an atom over the ears.

Man's petulance, coupled with his curiosity, caused all this trouble.

It is not saying that there won't be any cataclysmic Tuesday (Lord knows, our crystal ball has been clouded ever since the 1948 election). We are just saying that, if we do have a cataclysm or two, they are more likely to result from some butter-fingered scientist's careless machine or an electronics disintegrator or a vial of nerve gas—than the antics of little men from outer space.

Besides, President Eisenhower said at his last news conference that the Air Force assures him that nobody is bothering us from outer space right now.

Which neatly wraps up our argument. Hold onto your hats Tuesday but don't expect to meet any Martians.

From The Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont

DON'T BE A LENDER

EVERY now and then we run across a court decision, which, however justifiable under the facts and the law, sort of frightens us.

Take, for instance, the recent decision of a California court that the owner of an automobile jack, must pay one who borrowed it \$100,000 because the jack slipped and injured him.

Apparently there was nothing wrong with the jack, nor did the owner have evil intentions. To accommodate a fellow motorist, he lent him the jack to change a tire. The jack slipped, as jacks will, even the best of them, we suppose, and the borrower was hurt.

Of course, if the owner had lent the borrower a defective jack, one that was in the habit of slipping, without at least calling his attention to the danger, we could see how the injured man might have some claim to damages.

But shouldn't a borrower take the same risk an owner does in the use of the borrowed item?

Instead, he uses it to get drunk and walks in front of a bus?

Suppose you lend your neighbor your power mower and he cuts off his dog's tail with it. Or he uses your garden rake, rakes it on the lines and gets knocked in the head with the handle?

Or suppose you give some stranger the time of day, which proves to be incorrect, and he misses a business appointment and loses a commission?

And because some darned fool probably set a jack on soft ground and let it slip and the car fell on him.

Every little American boy has a chance to be President when he grows up. It's just one of the chances he has to take.—CARLETON (N. M.) CURRENT-ARGUES.

Pome In Which An Observation Is Made Concerning Persons Who Are Financed In Managing Their Personal Affairs. People who are bowed by debt are inclined to fume and fret.—ATLANTA JOURNAL.

Conservatives Shouldn't Mumble—McCarthy's Program Theirs

By STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON PRESIDENT Eisenhower's legislative program, un-cited in broad outline this week, poses again a misleading question. Why are so many conservative Republicans honestly convinced that the President is not a "real Republican," but some sort of New Dealer in disguise?

Anyone who traveled widely during the recent campaign can testify that this is what a great many old line Republicans do really believe. And this conviction in turn has stimulated the bitter division in the Republican Party. And yet, if you examine the Eisenhower program with an open mind, you can only reach one conclusion. The program may, as the President insists, represent "progressive moderation."

But it is also, basically conservative program, by any reasonable tests.

First, the anti-Eisenhower Republicans who are almost to a man former supporters of the late Sen. Taft claim to detect a rank New Dealer shell in the administration's welfare policies. It is true that last Monday the President told Republican leaders that he still favors his health, reinsurance plan and "continued public housing."

Yet the fact is that Sen. Taft himself publicly expressed far more New Dealer ideas on health and housing than any the administration has put forward.

IT'S HUMPHREY'S BABY Again, there has been muttering because the current program calls for postponing a scheduled reduction of some \$1 billion in corporation and excise taxes.

Yet the man who insisted on the postponement was Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey, a pre-1932 Taft man, and a conservative if there ever was one.

Moreover, if the President's program is really hostile to business in any way, the stock market is clearly blissfully unaware of this fact.

All in all, it is difficult to see where Sen. Taft could have suffered seriously with the Eisenhower domestic program. It is, then, the Eisenhower foreign policy which accounts for the anger of the conservative Republicans?

From all the clamor, one might think so. But again, consider the facts.

All economic aid to Europe is to be eliminated this year, which Sen. Taft would certainly have applauded. The size of the still disputed aid program for Asia is to be determined by former Budget Director Joseph Dodge, another Taft man.

And on the other hand, it cannot seriously be maintained that the conservative Republicans have reason for anger because the President has not gone far enough in Asia. Sen. Knowland's call for a blockade of China has been a resounding dud. And after all, it was the conservative Republicans who most vociferously opposed American intervention in Indochina.

Of course there are some real policy differences as on the tariff issue. But such differences cannot really account for the angry muttering about the Eisenhower administration in country clubs and in the cloak rooms of Capitol Hill.

Not even Sen. McCarthy really objects for the internal battles in the Republican Party. He is, in fact, more a conservative than a conservative of this bitterness. Many conservative Republicans supported McCarthy less because they admired McCarthy than because they distrusted the administration.

But if the administration is demonstrably conservative by any national measure, why do so many conservatives distrust it?

There are all sorts of answers, of course, from patronage trouble to the still raw memories of the 1952 convention. But the basic reason seems to be that the President has not gone far enough in the business and others who make up the backbone of the Republican Party conviction during the 30 Democratic years, a sort of ideal dream image of a Republican administration. The Eisenhower administration, it seems, does not live up to this image—because it can't.

One example. A great many Republicans honestly be-

lieve that Republican efficiency would make it possible to reduce taxes sharply, balance the budget, and put the Russians firmly in their place. All at the same time. One suspects that Secretary Humphrey and Secretary of Defense Louis L. Howe shared this belief. Yet a few days ago Secretary Wilson announced a five-billion dollar increase in defense spending. In fact, more a conservative than a conservative of this bitterness. Many conservative Republicans supported McCarthy less because they admired McCarthy than because they distrusted the administration.

Both announcements were dictated by the realities of the situation. It is the Secretary of State and Humphrey have been long and comfortably exposed for two long years. But to Republicans who have not been similarly exposed, it is no doubt natural to suppose that Wilson, Humphrey—and the Secretary of Defense—were infected by New Dealerism or some kindred disease.

This conflict between dream and reality has been the real cause of much of the trouble in the Republican Party. Fortunately, there are increasing signs that the Eisenhower administration is not living up to this image—because it can't.

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1954. The Propagandist and Tribune Syndicate

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.

50 Charlottes Bought Liquor; 2 Bought Music

Editors: The News: YESTERDAY afternoon I waited in my car in front of a Charlotte music store while my wife was shopping for music for the church organ she plays.

Beside the music store there was a store of a kind I have never entered, but it did not lack for customers. During the 20 minutes I waited no less than 50 people entered that other store, which is commonly called the ABC store. These customers were from all walks of life and of all ages from care-free youths to tired old men.

While I grudgingly observed that crowd, coming out of the liquor store during a short 30 minutes. I let my thoughts go back to the Charlotte I first knew in 1922. Then there were several large churches right up town on Tryon St., below the square. In each such church standing room was always at a premium, for a large crowd rode the train from Gastonia each Sabbath to attend the church. There were no liquor bottles on the post office lawn

and no drunks on the streets in those days. Charlotte was the most church-going city in the world, except one in Scotland.

Then I collected my thoughts and noted the two extremes before me. Here were two stores, side by side, each with a product older than our Bible. One has been the greatest blessing to humanity ever since David played his harp and sang of God's goodness. Music is the gift of God and the universal language of creation. The other product has been a curse to man since Noah came out of the ark, for the record says he became intoxicated and his conduct was shameful. Liquor has caused more deaths than all the armies that have marched and it has caused more sorrow and heart-ache than any other bad thing man has yet discovered.

While I sat watching the crowds enter and leave the liquor store, I saw 2 customers enter the music store. This product is about 10 to 15 years old. I wondered if only 1 out of every 25 persons in Charlotte would attend church and worship the

Christ with the lovely Christmas music. It brought sorrow to reflect that the Christmas was Christmas as a time for getting drunk, and some drink only at Christmas. What a way to celebrate the greatest day of the year! Let's put Christ back in Christmas.

—G. HOLDER

President's Handling Of McCarthy Has Paid Off

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON CLOSE associates of President Eisenhower are now more convinced that his handling of "handling" Sen. Joseph McCarthy has been proved right by consistently turning the other cheek and refusing to give a soft answer or no answer at all.

The President has the Wisconsin senator go on until, in this respect, he has alienated most of his followers.

With McCarthy's direct attack on Mr. Eisenhower, it became a choice between the President and the senator. Faced with that choice and the approaching election, most Republicans decided whether they like it or not, to follow the Eisenhower banner. The alternative is to split the party so severely that even with the Eisenhower name again at the head of the ballot victory would be impossible.

If the President had hit back at McCarthy, he would merely have given the senator an opportunity to trade blows on a level of semi-legal equality with the chief executive. By not engaging in angry exchange, such as Mr. Eisenhower has been tempted to do so, he has maintained the dignity of the office above factional strife. This, in the view of his associates, has his status has been while that of McCarthy has dwindled.

CASE'S CHALLENGE After the new Congress convenes Senate Republicans may be confronted with another test of whether their allegiance is to McCarthy or to the President. Senator Clifford P. Case of New Jersey, who was elected by a hair-line margin, has announced that in accordance with a campaign pledge he will challenge McCarthy's right to have a place on any Senate committee with investigative powers. If this challenge should be put to a vote, Republicans would be on the spot. They were on record to go against the case for Sen. McCarthy. But that was before the senator publicly accused the President of softness toward communism.

Democrats who have been most active in opposing McCarthy's methods indignantly reject the benign view of the President. They say that he has let others bear the brunt of the fight and let the punishment be meted out to the lonely position of such Democrats as former senators William Benton of Connecticut, who was Benton's initial challenge that forced the McCarthy showdown. Both Benton and Benton were defeated for re-election.

Similarly, a Republican, Sen. Ralph Flinders of Vermont, seemed to stand almost alone as the McCarthy bricks flew thick and fast. Republican, Sen. Arthur Watkins, chairman of the committee that considered the censure charge, heard himself rebuffed by a handiwork for communism.

But individual fortunes to one side, there is increasing evidence that the retirement of these who received in the mail an extraordinary amount listing the names of 140 individuals, organizations and publications as follows of the Communist Party line. This is based on the statement that "on Nov. 24, 1953, the Communist Party issued orders to fight McCarthy."

Among those on the list are Chief Justice Earl Warren; Nelson Rockefeller; Winthrop Aldrich, former head of the Chase National Bank and now ambassador to Great Britain; Secretary of State John Foster Dulles; Allen Dulles, head of the Central Intelligence Agency; Publisher Roy Howard; and John and Gardner Cowles of the Cowles publication, the Times and Life are listed as followers of the Communist line, as is the Christian Science Monitor. The document, under the name of Gregory O. Bern, comes from a post office box in Los Angeles and copies have been made available up to 400 for \$10.

CRACKDOWN INDIVISIBLE Carried to such absurd lengths, the document is so self-defeating that it is why some are questioning the wisdom of the National Activities Committee in instituting that the Department of Justice should act against such hate groups as the National Alliance Party. While the propaganda they put out is full of racial and religious hatred, it reaches the masses of the American people and would serve chiefly to make martyrs of the leaders and thereby to build them up in the eyes of their followers.

Such action also would seem to be an admission that these sinister groups actually were effective in the minds of the Americans subjected to this kind of propaganda might be in danger of succumbing. What has some areas in the period of straggling the hatemongers may have a following, extremists always have the surprise element—in which the two-party system has thus far survived.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON THE President's conference with Democratic leaders was just as harmonious as described in the newspapers except for one small point which few knew about when he left himself.

Except speaker-to-be Sam Rayburn got word that he was coming all the way from Texas to Washington just for one day, he telephoned his fellow Texan, Sen. Lyndon Johnson.

"Is there any reason why I should make that long trip?" he asked, and went on to point out that Eisenhower already knew he could depend on the Democrats regarding national defense and foreign policy, and that legislation must be moulded by committee chairman, not by the speaker.

Sen. Johnson, who was educated by Rayburn in the House of Representatives, agreed. But he said there wasn't much he could do about it.

So Rayburn called the White House director "it's the committee chairman who work out legislation, not me," he told the President, and explained that chairman of the committee has considerable power unto themselves. Therefore it is far better for the chairman to confer with the President rather than the speaker.

But like would have none of it. He insisted that Rayburn make the trip. So Mr. Sam, who does not like to fly, set out in a Dallas and took the long trip to Washington, one day after the White House conference, he turned round and took the train back to Rayburn's home, where he thought of not spending Christmas at home with his sisters. Furthermore, Sam had to pay for the trip out of his own pocket.

Though summoned to Washington by Eisenhower, he not the government, pays his travel expense. And congressmen's salaries are inexcusably low.

Rayburn Couldn't Beg Off Conference

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Doubts Raised About Wisdom Of Telethon

Charlotte

WHY DO we Charlottees have to be bribed by distant, disinterested so-called stars to support our United Appeal? This thing is a farce. Add up the total expense of this telethon and it would probably go a long way toward the United Appeal goal. In my opinion the only beneficiaries would be the thousands of dollars of free promotion the television station has received and our stars will promote their records or show a few Friday would say: "That's about the size of it."

—EDDIE REESE

budget figures presented by Budget Director Hughes, they could not find the five billion extra requested by Secretary of Defense Wilson. Democratic leaders side with Wilson and against economy-minded George Humphrey on the record says he became intoxicated and his conduct was shameful. Liquor has caused more deaths than all the armies that have marched and it has caused more sorrow and heart-ache than any other bad thing man has yet discovered.

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