

Room For Both Willie And Reddy

NINETEEN years ago 11 of every 100 farms in the U. S. were electrified. But in North Carolina only 3 out of every 100 were.

In 1937 the rural electrification program really got going. That year one of every 11 North Carolina farms and one of every six in the nation, had power. The increase was steady, if not spectacular, during the war years, and by July, 1945, 30 per cent of this state's farms, only six per cent less than the national average, had electricity.



During the post-war period almost 10 per cent of the powerless farms were electrified each year. In North Carolina the figure rose from 44.2 per cent in 1946 to 51.5 in 1947, 61.2 in 1948, 70.3 in 1949, 78 in 1950, 83.8 in 1951. In 1952, for the first time, North Carolina forged ahead of the national average, with 90.4, compared with 88.1 per cent of U. S. farms electrified, and last year the percentages rose to 94.1 and 90.8 respectively.

This has been a thrilling chapter in U. S. and particularly North Carolina progress. Few farm youths of this generation have more than a second-hand acquaintance with the lantern, the washboard, the ice saw that their elders used. Instead, the youngsters are thinking up new ways to apply electricity on the farm. For it is this field which offers wide vistas for the enterprising new that the job of getting up the power lines is nearing completion.

Already, farms which have been electrified for as long as 15 years are doubling their use of power every five years. Tobacco farmers are experimenting with automatic electrical controls on tobacco cures. Electric fans in corn cribs are reducing spoilage. Potato farmers, by using electric conveyor belts, automatic scrubbers, and electric drying lamps, are getting for themselves profits which used to go to processors. Peach growers are using electric sprayers, defuzzers and graders.

Credit for the success of rural electrification belongs jointly to the Rural Electrification Administration, electric cooperatives, private utilities and a host of farmers, economists, legislators, public servants who saw the program through. Here in North Carolina about 45 per cent of the lines with 57 per cent of the consumers are owned by 15 electric utility companies. Thirty-seven REA membership corporations have been organized to take up 50 per cent of the lines with one-third of the consumers. Fifty-nine municipalities and three public institutions account for the rest. The old battle between co-ops and utilities flares up occasionally, sometimes ludicrously, as in South Carolina where the creator of "Reddy Kiliowatt", the commercial power company's symbol, claims that "Willie Wirehand", symbol for rural electrification, is infringing on his territory.

Both "Reddy" and "Willie" have contributed substantially to rural electrification. There is still a big job ahead, and room enough for both of them.

All Is Not Turmoil And Trouble

IF YOU DON'T get beyond the front page headlines or the TV news broadcasts, you might very easily get the idea that the whole fabric of human society in this nation is being ripped to pieces by the pressures of the East-West cold war struggle and the national political battle.

That is not the case, of course. All over this vast land of ours, there are countless millions of people who are going about their daily work, pursuing their varied interests, following their hobbies, keeping intact the pattern of American life that has made this country unique.

To cite a couple of local examples: Since early fall, a band of well-mannered, well-trained and supremely confident Charlotte lads have been riding the special buses of towns all over North and South Carolina to give the people a fine variety of musical show, full of chuckles and gaiety and perhaps a tear or two. A week from Friday, the Charlotte Boys Choir hits the road for a 10-day tour to Florida. On Saturday night of this week, the lads give their annual Charlotte concert at the Armory-Auditorium to help defray expenses of the Florida tour. Those who have heard the choir before will be there, without any suggestion from us. To those who haven't heard it, we can only say that this is a fine opportunity to get acquainted with the lads.

Also since early fall, the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra has given four regular concerts with great artists, and one special affair for school children. On Monday and Tuesday nights of next week, the orchestra is going to display its instrumental vaudeville without the distraction of a "big name" artist. It's the last concert of the year, and it ought to be the best.

Different kinds of music, to be sure, with the lads socking the old popular favorites, and the symphonists reaching back into the classics. But it takes all kinds to make a world, or a town. And without either, the pattern would be incomplete.

Tillett's Role In Fight Recalled

AT CHAPEL HILL last year, members of the Howard Williams Society heard a moving tribute to the late Charles W. Tillett of Charlotte by Attorney Francis E. Winslow of Rocky Mount. The title: "The Free Mind In Action."

What gives the address current interest is its recent issuance in booklet form. And even more important to the current scene is the detailed character of Mr. Tillett's courageous fight within the American Bar Association and in public forums, against the Bricker amendment.

Mr. Tillett's section of the ABA's Standing Committee on Peace and Law Through the United Nations opposed any amendment to limit the treaty-making power, but the House of Delegates rejected this view and recommended that Congress consider an amendment. Said Mr. Winslow of Charles Tillett:

"He firmly believed that the safety of our country depends upon a strong executive in charge of foreign affairs; that the founding fathers intended eternally

to vesting the power there; that this amendment would be the final act in the process of withdrawing away the power of the executive vis-a-vis Congress—a process which was developing as more and more ineffective in the months since his death . . .

"The effort to practically immobilize the treaty-making function stimulated him to action against it. The strength of the sudden movement astounded, shocked and distressed him. It almost broke his heart . . . His unremitting toil and deep concern for this development was possibly the critical factor in the break-down which led to his tragic death . . . It may be said that he died in the fight against it."

And so in the various bar associations, before the Bricker committee, by correspondence with newspapers and other journals, Charles Tillett was one of the leaders in the battle against the Bricker amendment. To him, as to Judge John J. Parker of Charlotte who carried on after Charles Tillett's death, goes a large portion of the credit for the resounding defeat of Sen. Bricker's proposal.

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From The Asheville Citizen

BATTLE OF BULL (CALF) RUN

NORTH CAROLINA'S senatorial campaign has started off at a walk, you might say, and at first blush we're vastly relieved. No ugly charges. No bold deflections. Only, on the part of Candidate W. Kerr Scott, some amiable nonsense—the 21-mile walking contest from Kinston to Hargett's Crossroads.

Hon. Scott has a remarkable affinity for publicity. He offered a bull calf to anyone who could better his six-hour record for the 21 miles (walked in 1919 to save a \$21 tax bill). Thirty-six contestants did it. Now Scott is being called the "Bull Calf."

The next move, obviously, is up to candidate Alton A. Lennon. Surely, in his youth, Senator Lennon swam around

Recovery Of Democrats Hammer At 'Subversion'

McLeod Faces Embarrassing Question

By MARQUIS CHILDS

IN the German elections last September Chancellor Adenauer's Christian Democratic Union party used the slogan, "The German Miracle." The German people were not altogether happy with that expression, since many of them felt Germany's transformation was due not to any miracle happening but to their own hard, incessant work.

Yet, considering what has taken place in so short a space of time, the change does seem little short of miraculous. It was scarcely more than seven years ago that James Byrnes, as recommended, in a speech at Stuttgart, gave the Germans what was, in effect, a go-ahead signal to get on their own rehabilitation in what was to develop into an ever-closer partnership with the West, and particularly America.

A major step toward recovery was taken with the reform of the currency in June, 1948. The post-war inflation had made the American cigarette the real coin of the realm. In the three zones of West Germany, occupied by France, England and the United States, the worthless currency was, in effect, abolished in many ways. This was a brutal move, since it wiped out the savings of millions. Yet, the surgery worked and the German mark has become one of the soundest currencies in the world.

A year after the currency reform, the Federal Reserve was formed and a group of hard economic specialists went to work to free the German economy from artificial controls. In Germany the phrase is not free enterprise, but the social market economy. Ludwig Erhard, a former professor in Munich, as minister of economics under Adenauer, proceeded to take of rationing and other controls just as rapidly as possible. Again the surgery was drastic but again, it worked. Prices rose as the Germans, with money that was worth something in their pockets again, went on a buying spree.

Erhard is driving to build up a consumer economy, with the realization that too great a reliance on exports cannot bring a healthy expansion for the long pull. How much these efforts have contributed to German recovery, no one can say. The heart of the German economy remains the heavy industry of the Ruhr, with its coal and market counting for up to 40 per cent of the total.

Another ardent free enterprise in the Adenauer Cabinet, Minister of Finance Fritz Schaeffer, is trying to meet the demand for capital to invest. He has succeeded in raising income taxes 15 per cent and is now moving for a second reduction. Schaeffer believes that the middle class will invest the money they save in this way in industry, and thereby bring expansion and modernization.

The trade unions in the coal and steel industry have just made new wage demands, but no one, and most of all the union leaders, expect the increases to be granted. One reason is that three million tons of coal are piled about the ground. Another reason is the organizing ineffectiveness of union groups.

The work week in Germany is 48 hours. The more than ten million refugees have swollen a work week of 48 hours. The more than ten million refugees have swollen a work week of 48 hours. The more than ten million refugees have swollen a work week of 48 hours.

THE Democrats can hardly wait to get the State Department secretary officer, R. Scott McLeod, on the witness stand. They intend to call him before the Senate's Post Office and Civil Service Committee, and to ask him an embarrassing question. Here is the sort of thing they have in mind:

"Mr. McLeod, as we understand it, a man who has been designated a security risk under the security program is classified as a subversive if information relating to subversion appears in his personnel files. Now, suppose a man's files show that he has recommended, in writing, the recognition of Red China.

"Suppose further, Mr. McLeod, that this same individual's files reveal that he has also been rather closely associated with the Institute of Pacific Relations, and that he has been intimate with others extremely active in the Institute.

"Suppose, on top of all this,

that the files show that the individual in question maintained for a long time a sympathetic association with Alger Hiss; that he recommended Hiss for a post of great national influence; and that he failed to propose Hiss's discharge from this post, when Hiss was exposed by the Un-American Activities Committee.

"Would all this information be sufficient to place the individual in the subversive category, in the breakdown of the security program dismissals which the Administration has given us? It is a little hard to see how Mr. McLeod is going to answer this question, except by indignant waffling. For if his personnel files are complete, the information about Hiss and the Institute of Pacific Relations appears in the files of Mr. McLeod's boss, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

Dulles is accounted by most observers one of the ablest high officials appointed by President Eisenhower. He has moved ahead fast in the foreign policy field, after a slow start. If the State Department's public opinion polls are to be trusted, he has the confidence of a surprising 68 per cent of the voters. Dulles is considered by the best American tradition, when he refused to ask for Hiss's resignation as President of the Carnegie Institute until Hiss had been proven guilty in a court of law.

Altogether, any sane man would agree that it would be absolutely ridiculous to count the conservative Dulles as a potential subversive, on the basis of such information as that listed above. Yet, the embarrassing question which the Democrats are gleefully planning to ask McLeod is a perfectly legitimate question all the same. For plenty of disreputable people have been counted as potential subversives, on the basis of far less convincing information.

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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.

A Question For Senator Lennon

Charlotte Editors, The News:

I notice an Associated Press story quoting Sen. Alton Lennon on the proposed bill for grand steeple to Hawaii. The senator is quoted as saying:

"I am opposed to admitting either Alaska or Hawaii as a state. They are both too far from the mainland, and the population of Hawaii has too high a proportion of Orientals."

Where did "The Three Wives" come from — Virginia Beach? — F. L. LINDSEY

He Doesn't Want A New Depression

Charlotte Editors, The News:

With all the wealth of our nation, we see people being added to our unemployment rolls daily because of the abolition of those who try to get another penny for their bank account.

We, the working people, know that there is need for such a policy in this land of ours, as the

late Franklin D. Roosevelt proved in his first term of office. I wish to warn our government and our people that if we do not take heed of the lessons that they had better remember those who work as well as the rich, for our people are worried. I have talked to people in all walks of life in the last month, and they tell me that they will never submit to another depression.

I was with these forgotten people long, and we have advanced a long way since the dark days of the Thirties. And we don't intend to go back that far.

— J. A. GRAHAM

Intelligence Not A Supreme Reality

Charlotte Editors, The News:

Mr. Black writes in The News that "the British are too far advanced rationally to heed Billy Graham's Bible preaching." He backs up his own comment that "the Biblical origin of man, the Re-creation, etc. is childish fable and ignorant superstition."

I would like to differ with this last statement because he assumes himself an intellectual and scientific man, and he is a believer in pure science and rationalism. Intelligence of mind

Lewis Case A Threat To Free Press

who have the police power at their beck and call, borders on the vindictive tyranny of the early days of this country. In fact the law under which Fulton Lewis was indicted was handed down from early colonial days when British officials were worried about respect for themselves and King George.

First Crusader

Whenever I get discouraged about what a newspaperman should stand for, I like to read about the battles for freedom fought in those days, especially about the first great American journalist, Tom Paine. Though Tom Paine was not among the signers of the Declaration of Independence, he probably had as much to do with winning our basic freedoms as anyone. I read him a while this morning, as I was thinking about the first great American journalist, Edmund Burke's warning to Paine that his "rights of man" did not "deserve any other reputation than that of criminal justice."

In other words Burke proposed criminal prosecution for the man who championed our basic freedoms, just as certain Maryland officials propose criminal prosecution for Fulton Lewis because he criticized them.

Tom Paine's answer was a masterpiece. It's too long to quote in full, but brief, it says "It must be every individual's duty indeed that should condemn

a work as a substitute for not being able to refute it." (To interpret, the Maryland officials cannot refute Lewis because what he said about gambling was true; so they prosecuted him.)

"It is for the good of nations, not for the emolument or aggrandizement of particular individuals, that government ought to be established," continued Paine.

"The defects of every government . . . must be open to discussion at the defects of a law, and it is a duty every man owes to society to point them out. These subjects of the rights and criticism of government) are always before a country as a matter of right, and cannot without invading the sacred rights of that country, be made subjects for prosecution. On that ground I will meet Mr. Burke whenever he pleases.

So, as Tom Paine said nearly 200 years ago, if we are going to have good government and clean government, the right and duty of every man to speak and reasonable comment has to be protected, no matter how much I may disagree with him. For once that right vanishes, the dividing line between free government and the government we criticize in the Kremlin is also vanishing.

Sorry to write such a long and solemn letter on such a solemn subject. I write a better one very soon.

FROM THE OLD MAN.



"Get thee behind me Satan!"

People's Platform Congressional Quiz

Q—What is the seating capacity in each chamber of Congress?

A—The House of Representatives, with 435 Members, has 448 seats on the "floor." Each seat is a tan leather upholstered chair with leather-padded arm rests. On the Senate "floor" there are 96 ornate red chairs and 96 mahogany desks. The House and Senate chambers, there are special seats set aside for the presiding officer, and for security reporters of debate and other visitors. To Senate sessions may choose from among 621 seats in the gallery; the House has 516 gallery seats for visitors.

Q—Can a member of the armed services visit his congressional district without his legislative immunity?

A—Section 4 of the Universal Military Training and Service Act (Public Law 51 of the 82nd Congress) reads: "No member of the armed forces shall be arrested or prevented from communicating directly or indirectly with any member or members of the House of Representatives concerning any subject unless such communication is in violation of law . . . or the security and safety of the United States."

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