

### The First Fateful Days Of Korean War

IN TODAY'S "PEOPLE'S PLATFORM," a News reader charges the editors with being "careless with the historical and unbiased truth" in a recent editorial on Indochina. He takes issue with the first paragraph of the editorial, which said that Mr. Truman acted decisively to stem the invasion of South Korea "at the request of the United Nations Security Council." It is a thoughtful letter, and it merits a thoughtful answer.

Whether Mr. Truman acted "at the request of the United Nations Security Council" will be debated for a long time, and is largely an academic question. That was not the point of the editorial, which was intended to help News readers understand the grim decision Mr. Eisenhower faces in Indochina and to put it in historical perspective. But since we have been charged with factual carelessness, here is the record as given by several sources (WORLD ALMANAC, TIME Magazine, ROBERT T. OLIVER'S "YANCOO IN KOREA," ROBERT TAFT'S "A FOREIGN POLICY FOR AMERICANS," and ALBERT WARNER'S "HOW THE KOREAN DECISION WAS MADE" in the June, 1951, issue of HARPER'S).

On June 24, 1950, U. S. time (June 25, Korean time), North Korea invaded South Korea. President Truman was enjoying a "back porch" weekend in Independence, Mo. In Washington, State Department and Defense Department officials went into immediate consultation after receiving reports of the invasion. U. N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie was kept informed during the night by telephone.

On June 25 (Sunday), after receiving his third telephone report from Secretary of State Acheson, Mr. Truman cut short his weekend and boarded his plane to return to Washington. At 3 p. m., while Mr. Truman was in flight, the Security Council met at Lake Success at the direction of Secretary General Lie, who had been requested to call the meeting by State Department Assistant Secretary Hickerson. The Council adopted a resolution, proposed by U. S. Ambassador Ernest Gross, which declared that North Korea had committed a breach of the peace, called upon North Korea to "withdraw forthwith their armed forces to the 38th Parallel," and asked "all members to render every assistance to the United Nations in the execution of this resolution."

On Sunday night, Jan. 25, high U. S. officials met with Mr. Truman at the White House and after a long and serious discussion, four precautionary steps were decided upon: (1) To start the U. S. fleet moving from the Philippines toward Japan; (2) To return U. S. warplanes to certain islands near Formosa; (3) To use American ships and planes to evacuate Americans from South Korea; (4) To give arms to the United Nations under the mutual defense program.

### A Way To Help Mecklenburg Schools

LAST WEEK a school principal in Mount Holly pointed up, in our PEOPLE'S PLATFORM, the parents' stake in the school system. He told how school officials have for years tried to broaden public interest in the schools. Many parents, he observed, never seem interested in the schools until something appears to be wrong with them, then they begin to deplore the situation.

Schools are of course important not only to parents, but to all taxpayers. Education costs lots of money, tax money. Here in Mecklenburg County the tentative county budget for the next fiscal year includes \$39,844 for current maintenance expenses, \$134,470 for school capital outlay, \$1,064,742 for school debt service (jointly borne by city and county) and \$194,000 for a special school supplement.

One would suppose then that a number of taxpayers, particularly parents

### Of Mountain Flowers And Horn Tooting

ONE OF THE nicer things about the spring and fall seasons is that they inspire a flow of readable publicity about the glories of the North Carolina mountains—about the flowers in the spring, and the fall-colored leaves in the fall. To the busy, city-bound editor, who scarcely finds time to keep his half-don't azaleas properly tended, the capture of the mountain poetist is a thing to be envied.

One of the best of the lot is the pert and personable Miss Margaret Flesher who toots a horn, and a very musical one at that, for the Asheville Chamber of Commerce. Quite wisely, she doesn't plug Asheville directly, but writes about the glories of the Southern Appalachians and especially the Blue Ridge Parkway, knowing full well that most of the motorists who make the Parkway trip will wind up sooner or later in Asheville.

In her latest release Miss Flesher informs us that "bloodroot, anemone and hepatica have already made their appearance"; that the "blueberry, the service-berry (or service-berry) may already be seen at low altitudes"; that the flowering dogwood will put forth its



"If cigarettes don't get ya, the H-bomb will."

### People's Platform

#### Editors 'Careless' With Truth

EDITORS, The News:—Marshallville. I am writing you regarding your editorial in your issue of June 24, 1950, in which you stated that Mr. Truman acted decisively to stem the invasion of South Korea "at the request of the United Nations Security Council." It is a thoughtful letter, and it merits a thoughtful answer.

Whether Mr. Truman acted "at the request of the United Nations Security Council" will be debated for a long time, and is largely an academic question. That was not the point of the editorial, which was intended to help News readers understand the grim decision Mr. Eisenhower faces in Indochina and to put it in historical perspective. But since we have been charged with factual carelessness, here is the record as given by several sources (WORLD ALMANAC, TIME Magazine, ROBERT T. OLIVER'S "YANCOO IN KOREA," ROBERT TAFT'S "A FOREIGN POLICY FOR AMERICANS," and ALBERT WARNER'S "HOW THE KOREAN DECISION WAS MADE" in the June, 1951, issue of HARPER'S).

#### Newsroom Says City Has Lived Gloriously

Charlotte. The News:—Charlotte realizes its natural and civic beauty and "bizness," he would think that the people must be of such attractive attributes.

#### Reds Fish Troubled Waters Of Arab World

Rock Hill, S. C. Editors, The News:—THE UNITED States and the free nations of the world have an acute interest in the Middle East. The Soviet Union is playing power politics in the United Nations with Israel-Arab world. Her ultimate purpose is to bring the Arabs and then the whole Moslem world under Communist control.

#### Why The Big 'N' And The Small 'w'?

Charlotte. ENCLOSED is a clipping from your paper. I marked your mistakes. Do you use small letters referring to the whites and large "N" when referring to the Negroes.

#### Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON. THE importance and dignity of Secretary of State Dulles' European tour is being emphasized in diplomatic conversations which occurred in Washington before he left.

#### Merry-Go-Round

White House strategists are wooing Sen. Stuart Symington, the able but sometimes politically naive Democratic senator from Missouri. They figure they can catch him over to the GOP on some issue, also for his effective attacks on military budget reductions.

### Italian OK Of EDC Hinges On Settlement Re Trieste

ROME. OF THE six countries that signed the European Defense Community treaty four—Germany, Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg—have now ratified it. France and Italy have still to act, and the chances are that the Italian Parliament will delay even longer than the Assembly in Paris.

The bill for ratification has just been introduced by Premier Scelba but it has not been put in the urgent category. The timetable is expected to be approximately as follows:

One committee of the chamber will take two months to hold hearings and report the bill out. That would bring it to the floor about the end of June. The question then is whether the Parliament would take a summer vacation or have immediately considered the measure. In any event, the Communists and allied groups will nearly 40 per cent of the seats will be able to prolong the debate for six months, which would mean passage sometime late in the year or if there is a summer recess, in January.

This is on the assumption that Scelba's center coalition government will remain in power and that it will not, therefore, be necessary to hold new elections. Since the common army, on which so much of the Eisenhower foreign policy depends, cannot come into being until six countries have ratified, this means a prolonged period of uncertainty, with mounting Franco-German tensions and the possibility that the whole thing may come unstuck.

But Washington should have had forebodings about what would happen to EDC in Italy, since American officials here say they have consistently reported that Italian ratification was dependent, above all upon one condition: that the Trieste question be settled. This condition is satisfaction of the Italian demand for Trieste.

Last October the Italians gave a public promise by America and Britain that they could have Zone A disputed Trieste. This pledge was made with too little knowledge of what the reaction would be in Yugoslavia. France and Italy are vital to the defense of Western Europe, which is one reason the delaying tactics of their politicians are so frustrating to those who have staked so much on the European Army with the incorporation of 12 German divisions.

Yet from some quarters—not really responsible officials but among those trying to cope with the Trieste problem—the suggestion is being thrown out that a new alignment may be necessary. Great Britain, France and Italy are vital to the defense of Western Europe, which is one reason the delaying tactics of their politicians are so frustrating to those who have staked so much on the European Army with the incorporation of 12 German divisions.

### Labor, Afraid Of GOP, Against Law Change Now

WASHINGTON. Labor officials are afraid that the GOP will be no new labor legislation this session at all.

House and Senate committees have been hard at work drafting changes in the Taft-Hartley Act. Many of them presumably are pleasing to labor officers were demanded by industry.

All the pressure for enacting this is coming from the industry side. Labor is not just indifferent, it definitely does not want the issue opened up this year. It feels that the House certainly and the Senate probably would go further than the President wants them to do.

What would happen then, according to labor forecasters—is that the able Secretary of Labor Mitchell would take his part, Secretary of Commerce Weeks would also assume the right to advise the President about what he should do. They are not willing to risk it.

It should not prove too difficult to stall off a labor debate since little has been accomplished thus far and there is so much to do before Congress adjourns. It already appears that the July adjournment is confidently expected in January has gone glimmering.

Politically, it is hard to see why the President would want to add an argument with labor to his list of problems. He will be damned if business has shored him up substantially in that quarter already.

Some states where Republicans will make their greatest effort to unseat Democratic Senators—Illinois, Ohio, Minnesota and Missouri—the labor vote is substantial. It would only be handing Senators Douglas, Bush, Humphrey and Murray a weapon with a new and timely edge to put on the books Eisenhower changes in the Taft-Hartley Act which labor bitterly opposes.

During the early stages of hearing by the labor committees of the Senate and House, Secretary

### Dulles' Big Job In Europe Difficult

WASHINGTON. Secretary of State Dulles' European tour is being emphasized in diplomatic conversations which occurred in Washington before he left.

President Eisenhower first made up his mind to intervene in Indochina, our western allies were immediately contacted and asked for joint cooperation. They replied in the negative.

This negative word was received by the White House before Secretary Dulles and Adm. Radford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had their important secret session. Congressional leaders of both parties to sound them out in Indochina, in fact, French Dulles at 10:30 a. m., last before Dulles saw the senators at 2:30 Saturday.

### Taft-Hartley Debate

To understand why the House of Representatives is filibustering the Taft-Hartley Act rather than letting it as Eisenhower requested, you need only examine the philosophy of Congressman Ralph Gwinn of Brooklyn, N. Y., an old ranking Republican on the House Labor Committee.

Gwinn, an ultra-conservative and proud of his about 100 miles to the right of most conservatives in his own party, though he has some worthy rivals among the Democrats, including wing-collared Congressman Howard Worth Smith of Broad Run, Va.

The New Yorker also is an inveterate user of his free mailing frank for propaganda purposes and, has achieved the record of mailing 2,500,000 letters against housing, aid-education, etc., largely on behalf of business.

Long ago, Gwinn refused to recognize organized labor except as a "socialist menace to the United States. To Gwinn, a trade union is not an organization of working men and women struggling for better wages or working conditions, but an "organized violence" against employers.

During recent closed-door sessions of the House Labor Committee on the Taft-Hartley Act, Gwinn argued that the act should be loaded up with more restraints on labor.

"Government interference on behalf of labor unions is one of our greatest threats to liberty," he declared.

John Edgar Hoover, head of the Democratic Congressman Cleveland Bailey of West Virginia, "is the liberty to run your own business."

"The federal government should have nothing to do with organized violence in industry," said Gwinn, meaning, of course, trade unionism.

Under the Taft-Hartley act, Gwinn surrenders their liberty when they join unions and come under the influence of labor racketeers."

### Merry-Go-Round

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That one reason Stuart was out on the golf links with like the other day when fellow senators were trying to get his vote on the McCarthy committee case.

His brother Milton, president of Penn State, has been having trouble with the Daughters of the American Revolution. The ladies are quoting his DAF statement that UNESCO marks "very real progress toward the genuine goal of world government." Milton had to write a letter to Congressman Merrow of New Hamp-

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