

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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The Senate Has Done A Shameful Thing

WE WOULD have no objection to the Senate's decision to assign the question of censuring Sen. McCarthy to a select committee. If that committee made a conclusive report before this session of Congress ends and the senators meet the issue head-on before adjournment. But it now appears that the committee will not report until at least this fall, which means this Congress will not act upon its report. Then Sen. McCarthy can be expected to rake up impertinent issues to cloud the issue, as he did yesterday with his attack on Gen. Marshall. Majority Leader Knowland can be expected to lay him along, as he did yesterday with his attack on Sen. Morse. Meanwhile the issue will become entangled in the fall election, as Sen. McCarthy wants it to be. And on the hustings McCarthy and his crowd can truly claim a victory, thanks to the fact that the political leadership of his party—including the President, and his fellow senators—including the Democrats—didn't have the guts to take a stand against him. It is a shameful thing.

It is proper that the Senate be accompanied by a bill of particulars, as several senators suggested, and that McCarthy have an opportunity to answer charges. But it was generally overlooked during these recent hectic debates that Sen. Flanders appended a bill of particulars to his censure motion. Furthermore, his first item called attention to the fact that a bill of particulars was drawn up against McCarthy by a Senate Rules subcommittee in the closing days of the 82nd Congress, and that McCarthy repeatedly refused to answer those

charges, branding them instead as smear. Senators Fulbright and Morse provided other bills of particulars. Flanders produced a more detailed one. There is plenty of documented evidence at hand for the senators to draw conclusions from now, were they of a mind to do so.

But no, too many senators have chosen, throughout this debate, to rationalize their irresponsibility. Sen. Lennon's attitude is typical. He said Saturday night in Hickory that he would probably abstain if the Flanders resolution came to a vote. He said he "cannot vote on what I read in the papers." I would vote for the resolution if all of the things I read in the papers are true—documented as evidence. But we are being asked to vote on generalities, something about which no more than that the six senators have direct knowledge.

If by charges McCarthy has made, which were reported in the papers, were true, there wouldn't be any need to censure McCarthy.

Both Sen. Lennon and Sen. Ervin fear that adoption of the Flanders resolution might set a dangerous precedent.

We're concerned about the apparent failure of the Senate to live up to its presidential honor, and the effect of its spineless decision on the nation and the world.

The Diplomacy Uncle Sam Neglects

UNCLE SAM'S poor showing at past-war international fairs and exhibitions has anti-American forces chortling all over the globe. It has nearly reinforced Red arguments that capitalism's star is fading, unable to meet the competition of Communist science and industry.

President Eisenhower is wisely seeking to reverse this unhappy trend. He would direct this showcase war between America and the Communist world with the help of a special five million dollar fund now awaiting Senate approval.

The chief executive said it is highly important for U. S. business firms to participate in about 30 of the world's 77 trade fairs which "constitute a valuable scoreboard for promoting world understanding of American products and our private enterprise system."

Mr. Eisenhower is right. Rolling off American assembly lines today are products that can dazzle the world. The nation's household appliances, farm equipment, automobiles, television sets and other marvels are vastly superior to those any other nation can produce. But they have to be seen to be believed. This nation cannot merely depend upon posters, booklets and leaflets to convince the world of their importance—or the importance of the economic system that produced them.

It is to be hoped, however, that the exhibits will not be confined to "gadgets." U. S. art must be shown, too. The world should be convinced that Americans are not cultural barbarians interested only in dollars and materialism.

Possessing some of the most formidable materials on earth for cultural diplomacy, this nation has sadly neglected one facet of American culture that really impresses our global neighbors—the arts. This situation has become a source of great embarrassment to the

U. S. in the past. For instance, to one of the famed London musical festivals shortly after World War II, England sent an orchestra conducted by Sir Adrian Boult to represent its composers. France sent an orchestra conducted by Charles Munch. America was embarrassingly represented by a concert of phonograph records. As one stunned observer commented, it was like something you might encounter at a summer camp.

In our efforts to capture loyalties and allegiances in the cold war, cultural activities should form a strategic part of foreign policy.

But instead of exploiting America's most advanced and significant achievements in the arts, the government has often seemed to be ashamed of them. It is true that an outstanding Poncey Avo Beas troupe was sent abroad recently with the State Department's blessing. But Uncle Sam actively refused to take part later in the largest and most important exhibition of modern art ever to be held in the western hemisphere.

The event was held in Sao Paulo, Brazil. More than 4,000 works of art and important personages from 39 countries were on hand. France, Italy, the Netherlands, Germany, Norway, Yugoslavia and Austria all proudly unveiled a galaxy of riches. Every exhibit but one was sent with the official blessings of the invited nation's government. The single exception was the United States display—scraped together by a private New York organization. It was made up largely of rather stark mobiles by Alexander Calder. Because the State Department declined to have anything to do with the event, the international art world received only a keynote view of America's vast contemporary culture.

This is no way to win friends and influence allies.

Prepare To Man The Lifeboats

THAT SMOKE you smell is the slow burn of all the red sergeants in the land who read yesterday the total collapse of a way of life. The disturbing news came from End, Okla. At nearby Vance Air Force Base, GI's were greeted at breakfast by the sight of brightly-eyed crew members in white uniforms dishing up the scrambled eggs. Kitchen police, one of America's oldest military institutions, had been turned over to a catering service. For the enlisted man, no more KP.

Recognizing the day-to-day drifts, directions and tendencies of history is no easy task. But there can be no mistaking this sign of the times from the Vance mess hall. It is clearly the beginning of the end.

Just ask Arnold Toynbee. In his celebrated *Struy Or History*, he argues at considerable length in favor of the idea that rugged living keeps a people great. No important civilization has been born or maintained under conditions of physical comfort. Such conditions, Mr. Toynbee says, sap ambition, vigor and power.

Just flip back through the pages of history. Hannibal's army, after having spent a restful winter in Capua's salubrious surroundings, was never a serious instrument of victory again. Cyrus, declaring that soft countries breed soft men, discouraged his conquering Persians from moving out of their rocky territory into lush, new lands lest they lose their ability to rule and dominate. Caesar was equally emphatic in warning his warriors against the evils

of soft ways and too-comfortable living. Now, as the United States stands uncertainly on the threshold of the hydrogen era and needs all the strength that can be mustered, some fool abolishes KP.

That did it. Next time you know there'll be loud cones pulling guard duty, twinkling chandeliers in the barracks, latrines with built-in day tables and tea and crumpets every five days.

Prepare to man the lifeboats. We can feel our civilization sinking already.

Tell Leon

LEON KEYSERLING, who was chief economist under President Truman, keeps talking about reducing taxes and increasing spending to keep things humming.

Will someone please ask that fellow to lay off with his own money for awhile and play off with?

Boys in an Ohio school do all the repair work in their classrooms, we hear. And who do you suppose makes repair work necessary? —KINGSFORD (TENN.) TIMES.

A strike of truck drivers in Atlanta lasted only one day. It hardly gave pedestrians time to cross the street.—FOR MYERS NEWS-PRESS.



"I thought you people went out with gas-lights."

Otto John's Defection II

A Text For Troubled Times

By MARQUIS CHILDS

BOHN, West Germany. IN HIS second broadcast from Bonn, Otto John said, "I followed the voice of my conscience and I am convinced that I have chosen the right course of action." Despite the statements of the Ministry of the Interior to the contrary, this seemed to leave no doubt that the head of West Germany's security system had voluntarily gone over to the Communist side.

But in the past of this man who has lived through so much of the savage struggle for power in Germany during the last 20 years there were several reasons why he might have feared that his high position—indeed, his future as any capacity—was gravely threatened. With the rise of German nationalism those who, like John, participated in the July 20, 1944 plot against Hitler are increasingly regarded with suspicion.

Some openly call them traitors. Powerful influences were at work to remove John from the top security job and in the process to gain more information on him.

DOUBLE AGENT. More important, however, were the episodes in his own past that had made him subject to a kind of blackmail not so much from the West as from the East. From American intelligence sources, this reporter has verified that John, while working in the underground to remove Hitler during World War II, was all probability a double agent. That is to say, he became a secret agent for the Gestapo in order to "cover" to insure against suspicion of his underground activities and presumably also to gain more information on the plotters. The Gestapo records concealed in the Thuringer state prison were carried by invading Russians. This treasure trove is priceless since it gave the Communists detailed knowledge of the secret activities of thousands of Germans, including it, it believed, Otto John.

It is not hard to imagine the damage that would have been done to him if his Gestapo record had been broadcast to the world. His explanation that this was merely a cover would hardly have convinced anyone.

These are also days when astute Charles Halleck, of Indiana, the man who initiated Eisenhower's program through the House of Representatives, gives no advance warning when certain bills are coming up. He picks the time when he thinks there'll be fewest Democrats on the floor. That was why he rammed through the all-important atomic energy bill on a Friday and kept the House in session until 3 a.m. Saturday. He knew the weekends are the time when the big city Democrats come from New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey leave Washington.

To illustrate, what the long-suffering public faces during these hectic closing days of Congress, here is some of the slapp-happy legislation now either pending or awaiting passage.

The Rocky Mountain Trout Bill would require every restaurant in the area from which its trout comes. If the restaurateur flies in frozen trout from Denver, he must print that on his menu. If it comes from Colorado, he must print that also. Or if it comes from Norway, he must say so. If his dining saloon is too small to have

Times Were Merrier In The Era Of Wonderful Nonsense

By ROBERT RUARK

SUMMER being about the best NEW YORK season for nostalgia, my brain keeps spinning back to the years when things were simple and one problem at a time was a world I mean, when there was a tight baseball race on, you tossed things into the discard and concentrated on baseball.

I didn't have to burden myself with a lot of side-bar distractions, like the sad plight of the world you never saw, or fret about the Red Chinese, or fidget about France, or even consider the difference between the Viet Minh and the Viet Nam. If Babe Ruth hit his homer, that was enough news for the day.

Just recently I have been re-reading Paul Gallico's fine old book, "Farwell To Sports," which recounted the period called the "Era of Wonderful Nonsense" and when America was unglued to a remarkable degree. Helen Witt's feuds then were enough to stir the land; the Babe's belted home was a catastrophe; Bill Tilden's feats on the tennis court and Primo Carnera's lack of ability gave us enough mental food to get us through the cocktail hour.

If my memory works, it seems to me we did not have all those "How To" books in those days. We did not make such a dreadful chore of believing in God and being nice to kids or just enjoying ourselves. We didn't seek a motive for everything we did, or search too deeply into why it was necessary to do it. We just did certain things or didn't do certain things.

NOTHING DEEP. One of the best examples of those times was Grantland Rice, the old sports writer who died recently. His obituaries read a piece of nothing but praise. And he was a man who gave 50 years of his life to making but the trivial. I never read a piece of Rice's that does not bring in deeper than a salute to such things as golf and sportsmanship and Southern football players. He wrote what I mean, an unbearably dull column but most people loved it. But I remember him, although I don't remember his name, well, as a tremendously kind man, who had achieved dignity by his devotion to a magnificent ability to hold his horses better than most, and to write authoritatively on subjects which today's long-hairs would fiercely dismiss as unwarthy of serious consideration.

I sometimes think that Red Grange and Jim Thorpe and Jack Dempsey were a hollow sight more worthy of serious consideration than Oppenheimer or Chou, and that the greatest importance, and that Granny Rice hit a deeper mark on the times than Lippmann and the Alsop boys and all the other great knowledges.

I am prepared to accept today's Willie Mays as more important to my personal share of this great and sweeping era of nonsense than Anthony Eden, and there is a new bullfighter named Chianca in Spain, who outranks Roy Cohn by a great many degrees in my private estimate of importance.

Mr. Potter called the old times the era of "wonderful nonsense." Ours is nonsensical today, but not called in God or in wonderful. Dreadful, stupid, maybe, and damned dull in its final appraisal, but wonderful, nonetheless, in the bad-weather days. I get to thinking about a lot of Chinese I don't know, and don't want to get to thinking about the Russians and grayer Indians and various gradations of same, and all the business of parallels and parliamentary rules and Senate hearings and I wish to God I had the Babe's belted back, or some of Jimmy Walker's quiet foolishness to think about.

The Anxious 'Outs' Usually Gain In Mid-Term Elections

By CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY

WASHINGTON. POLITICALLY, what are the odds for the "outs" to get in?

In mid-term congressional elections the odds are usually in favor of the "outs" in all except one non-presidential election.

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ONLY EXCEPTION. The only mid-term election in which the "ins" made gains in both Senate and House through wins from the opposition was in 1934, during Franklin D. Roosevelt's first year. It took another four years before the Republican minority to make gains.

If the Democrats can take both Senate and House this year, it will be the third time an "out" party has accomplished the feat during the 20th Century. The Republicans did it at the 1918 mid-term election, in Woodrow Wilson's second term, and again in 1946, when Truman's first year began.

The first time, the GOP gained over the preceding election, six seats in the upper chamber and four in the House. In 1946, they organized both chambers after gaining 13 Senate and 56 House seats. Gains by one major party have not always exactly reflected losses by the other. Splitter parties, especially early in the century, sometimes held several seats and

memberships in both House and Senate still were being expanded. They have not been expanded since.

During Theodore Roosevelt's Republican administration in 1902, both major parties gained seats in both House and Senate, but the Democratic "opposition" had bigger gains than did the GOP.

Including 1902 gains, Democrats gained in one both houses in all six mid-term elections since that time with Republicans holding the House and House through the White House, four times the presidential opposition has captured control of the House.

People's Platform

Sutton Feels Lash Of Smear Campaign

ONE OF THE main planks in the platform of the Rep. Pat Stator is vigorous anti-Communism. He is stressing this policy in his campaign to win the Senate seat now held by Sen. Kefauver of Tennessee.

Reason for the bill is that the trout hatcheries of Colorado and Idaho want to sell more trout. They want to discourage imported foreign trout.

Nevertheless, the bill has already passed the Senate, and may have sold quietly through the House by the time this gets into print. It is his later argument that the trout hatcheries of Colorado and Idaho want to sell more trout.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

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