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Water: In The Decade Of Decision It Is North Carolina's No. 1 Problem

NORTH CAROLINA does not have enough water in the right places to support tomorrow's population, industry and agriculture. In the past, the state's efforts to keep ahead of its thirst have been weak and wavering. The time has come to hammer out a modern, effective program to control the use of the state's water resources to avoid disaster that could retard the growth of the state.

Just such a program is being developed by Gov. Hodges. It deserves the support of all the state's citizens—even Char- lotteans who live in the most comfort near the banks of the wide, free-flowing Catawba.

The stark seriousness of the water problem in terms of North Carolina's economic prosperity was outlined by Mr. Hodges before the General Assembly's Joint Committee on Conservation & Development. Compared to Tar Heel water worries, taxes are secondary, said the governor. He added:

"We are a growing state. We have great problems. We have a continuing need of money. We can get all of these things only by stable agriculture and industry. Water is the key to our agriculture needs. It, industry needs, and humans must have it."

TAR HEELS need only remember 1954 drought conditions to get the full impact of the governor's words. An accumulated decline in the Piedmont's water table produced emergency conditions in several cities. Rationing was instituted. There were lightning losses on the farms. Mill operations were crippled. Clouds were seeded in a desperate effort to coax rain from the heavens. Greensboro even tried to lay a cross-country pipe line to tap water in High Point's municipal lake.

Drought only dramatized the situation, bringing the peril into sharp focus. It is actually a continuing problem. Unless something is done, the state's water shortages of the future are likely to make those of the past seem pale by comparison.

Here is why: While water supplies are fairly constant over the long run, the demand for water is bounding upward. Years ago in rural North Carolina, almost every home had its own well for a water supply. With population increases, industrialization and urbanization, more and more people are getting water from public sources, turning the shortage into a complex community problem in many areas.

Comparatively new farm irrigation practices have added to industry's drain on local streamflows in the cities, the age of air conditioning has produced vast new requirements. In North Carolina's rural areas, a farmer needs 650,000 gallons of water to grow an acre of grain.

It takes 21 inches of water over an

entire acre to produce 100 bushels of corn in these areas—and there are thousands of 100-bushel producers now.

To produce a ton of cotton goods in North Carolina, a textile mill needs about 140,000 gallons of water. To produce a ton of paper a pulp mill needs 64,000 gallons.

Life depends upon water. And it takes a lot of water to sustain life. Normal per capita usage of water in Charlotte is 106 gallons a day. (Daily per capita water consumption of larger U. S. cities: New York, 136; Chicago, 224; Philadelphia, 168; Los Angeles, 151; Cleveland, 187; Boston, 117; Detroit, 147; St. Louis, 192.)

Yet there has been little done in North Carolina to encourage conservation; far too little done to protect the state's watersheds.

Even small things can make a difference. One leaky toilet can waste a lot of water in a year.

WATER is absolutely vital to industry. In fact, industry uses more water than anything else in the world. Ben E. Douglas, director of the State Dept. of Conservation & Development, said in Raleigh this week that prospective industry "is more interested in water than in taxes of any kind."

The upcoming bills in the General Assembly deal only with control of surface water. Certainly, a great deal needs to be done about underground water as well—and conservation and pollution. There is the problem of getting the water in the land, which is nature's reservoir, and keeping it there by good soil practices.

The new legislation proposed by the governor is drastic but necessary. The bill says in part:

"Water occurring in any natural streams, lake or other natural water body in the state, whether such be perennial or intermittent, is hereby declared to be public water and the public wealth of the state and subject to appropriation in accordance with the provisions of this act"

And the control and development and use of water for all beneficial purposes shall be in the state, which, in the exercise of its police powers, shall take such steps as shall be effective to insure full utilization and protection of the water resources of North Carolina.

Provided, however, this act shall not deprive any individual of any vested right in the use of water.

As the governor said, North Carolina has a good reputation for seeing the state as a whole. There must be certain priorities—everybody there has to give a little and take a little.

The General Assembly must face the problem of water squarely. It is a big problem and a complex one. But practical solutions are available. The governor's program should be enacted into law.

The Real Way To Unite Allies

THE Communist countries are united. Perhaps their cooperation is unwilling and forced. But it is a fact. And it is as true now as it was centuries ago when the storied father broke a stick across his knee, and then showed his sons that a bundle of sticks could not be thus broken, that there is strength in unity. This applies among individuals and nations.

An equally grim fact is that the free countries are not united. They profess unity. They set up boards and commissions among themselves. Liaison officers scurry back and forth between capitals. But there is no machinery for resolving occasional, fundamental conflicts between allies. Resulting, conflicting policies tend to cancel each other out.

This costly shortcoming of national sovereignty is widely recognized. But little has been done about it. Therefore, we are extremely pleased that a number of senators have proposed a means of better unifying the allies.

Wednesday 14 senators proposed that the President invite other democracies to name delegates of their principal political parties to meet in convention with delegates from the U. S. to explore and report to what extent their peoples might further unite, within the framework of the U. N., and agree to form, federally or otherwise, a defense, economic or political union. This is essentially the same "Atlantic Union" proposal made by Sen. Estes Reformer and others several years ago.

We are pleased to see that, this time, Sen. Kefauver has been joined by North Carolina's own Sen. Scott, by other new names like Richard Neuberger of Oregon and Pat McNamara of Michigan, southerners like John Sparkman of Alabama, and Russell Long of Louisiana, Republicans like Ralph Flinders of Vermont and Fredrick K. Ives of Maine, and original supporters of the proposal like Jim Murray of Montana and Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota.

These men have recognized the value and versatility of the federal system which, supported by the fully articulated here in the last of its origin. It is infinitely more difficult to unite democracies than dictatorships. But, as has been proven in Canada and Switzerland, it is possible in this country, the federal system is wonderfully adaptive, and permits citizens of diverse cultures and languages to arrive democratically at a common policy.

Debate on the issue would serve to point up the value of the federal, American way, and to point up the dangers of a concept of national sovereignty that is perilous to cling to in view of the danger confronting the democracies. Moreover, the proposed citizens' convention would do more than a dozen diplomatic conferences and hundreds of "unity" statements to create real understanding among the allies.

May the Atlantic Union resolution be marked urgent, in the White House and on Capitol Hill.

ALWAYS BE SOCIABLE

AUSTRIAN Supreme Court has ruled that if a man kisses a girl, it cannot be considered a punishable offense even if the girl does not want to be kissed.

The court said, "The kiss has become an institution of social life and thus cannot be an offense against the laws even in cases where it may be against the rules of good behavior."

against the laws not to kiss a girl who wants to be kissed?

"Four years of college!" exclaimed the girl graduate, "and whom has it got me?"—CARLSBAD (N. M.) CURRENT-ARGUS.

The Enduring Legacy Of India's Mahatma Gandhi

By G. L. MEHTA
Ambassador Of India

Editor's Note: The following article was reprinted from the Washington Post and Times-Herald.

SEVEN YEARS ago, Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated. People in this country have asked me: "Does Gandhi's influence still prevail?" Is his working carried on? Is he remembered?

In one respect, Gandhi's mission was accomplished with the achievement of Indian independence. For nearly 20 years he was the indispensable leader of India's national movement and he lived to see the attainment of self-rule for which he strove and suffered. When, therefore, on August 15, 1947, power was transferred peacefully and with mutual good will from British to Indian hands, Gandhi's task was, in this sphere, completed.

But while Gandhi laid the cornerstone of Indian independence, he did not live to see its coping stone. For the realization of the constitution of India was finally adopted on Jan. 26, 1950. This constitution embodies many of his cherished objectives. It is democratic and secular in character. The fundamental rights in the constitution protect the individual against any citizen on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth.

Gandhi believed fervently in the ideal of a secular state in a fundamental, human sense. Indeed, it is no exaggeration to say

that it was because of his uncompromising stand for human brotherhood that he lost his life. For he was in a true sense his brother's keeper. And the efforts which Indian leaders are making today to build a truly secular state give expression to Gandhi's innermost conviction.

Against the evil of "untouchability," Gandhi fought all his life. He felt its practice to be incompatible with the teachings of Hinduism and rejected its social justice. Article 17 of the Constitution of India, under which "untouchability" is abolished and its practice in any form is forbidden, is a response to Gandhi's challenge.

If the law in India recognizes no such things as "untouchables," if there are ministers and parliament members, members of Parliament and legislative assemblies in the states who belong to backward communities; if numerous temples have been thrown open to them, and measures have been taken not only for their uplift but for penalizing discrimination in any shape or form—that is no small tribute to the heroic and often lonely battle that Gandhi waged on their behalf. In the complete eradication of "untouchability" and the

prohibition by the state in pursuance of Gandhi's wishes.

Gandhi believed in revival of rural industries, especially hand-spinning. The present government has an active program of organizing and assisting village industries. Many large funds have been earmarked for this purpose. Special efforts are also being made to encourage khadi or hand-spun cloth through loans and subsidies. Certain categories of cloth are reserved for production by hand looms, which still give employment to nearly two million people all over India.

These efforts to help the developed and selfless workers who are carrying on his work, implementing his constructive programs



MAHATMA GANDHI
Above All, Love

its villages. And the fact that schemes of rural development and reconstruction are being worked out carefully and implemented energetically show that Gandhi's emphasis on the national economy has not been forgotten.

In fact, the program of community development, aided by the Indo-American Technical Cooperation Agreement, was inaugurated on Oct. 2, 1952. Gandhi's belief that the objectives of this program were nearest to his heart—the revival of 500,000 villages of India. The Second Five-Year Plan, which is now in the process of formulation, recognizes the village as the center of national development.

Gandhi was not an educationist any more than he was an economist. But, like all great men, he endeavored to view life as a whole. And deeply human as was his approach, he was concerned with raising the stature of the mass of people. He therefore addressed himself in his later years to problems of education.

LEARN BY DOING
Gandhi felt that dignity of labor was not adequately recognized in India's educational system. He believed that teaching had to be intimately related to living. His ideas of "learning by doing" and of centering education round a craft find expression in schemes of "basic education" which are being adopted by several educational authorities in India.

But despite the importance of the state in a country like India and the undoubted impress of Gandhi on the present national government, we should look beyond governmental policies, measures and institutions to ascertain Gandhi's influence. All over the country there are groups of devoted and selfless workers who are carrying on his work, implementing his constructive programs

and trying to live up to his principles. In the work of such men and women, Gandhi's ideas endure.

There is, for instance, Vinoba Bhave, the man who leads the "barefoot" movement and who with persuasion and appeal to a better self has been able to obtain more than three million acres of land from the landlords for redistribution among the tillers of the soil.

There is little doubt that but for Gandhi's teachings and influence, neither would Vinoba Bhave have wandered around the country, nor would the landlords have listened to him.

Finally, the contribution that India has made during the last seven years to the cause of international cooperation and world peace is in no small measure due to Gandhi. If Buddha personified India's tradition of peace in ancient days, Gandhi symbolized it during the first half of this century.

He sincerely believed that India's freedom was not worth having if it was won with violence and racism.

PEACEFUL STRUGGLE
His conception of nonviolence involved a rejection of the gospel of force as the basis of international life. To appreciate fully India's attitude in world affairs, it is imperative to remember that India's national leadership deliberately chose the method of peace in her struggle for independence.

Under the leadership of her Prime Minister, free India has been, therefore, sought to promote understanding and harmony between nations. This is not "neutrality" if this term used rather inappropriately when there is no war implies a lack of responsibility concerning world affairs or a desire to escape international obligations or a policy of isolation.

India's attitude is more positive, involving as it does a constructive approach toward reducing world tensions and developing a firmer basis of cooperation among nations.

The fact that despite differences of approach and methods, India was selected by both sides for generous responsibility in the Korean armistice and for the settlement in Indochina showed that there was confidence in the integrity and impartiality of her representatives. That India's policy has been fruitful is evinced by her association with the Commonwealth of Nations and more recently, by the peaceful transfer of French possessions in India to Indian sovereignty. There is no doubt that in this emphasis on peaceful ways for resolving conflicts, national and international, Gandhi has left a legacy which is invaluable in this nuclear age.

Gandhi, during his life, swayed millions of his countrymen. It was

leave out the prophets of old, hardly any other individual transformed by peaceful means the outlook and habits of a vast people, with their diverse castes and creeds and various interests, as he did. Without holding any office, governmental or religious, without the backing of military force or the support of civil authority, he exercised immense power over the minds and hearts of countless men and women.

At the root of this power there was no physical force, no authoritarian compulsion, but a unique moral strength, selflessness and complete dedication. Yet Gandhi did not seek to propound any creed, formulate an ideology or establish a cult. He said that there was no such thing as "Gandhism," which was a term used by some of his followers and appears alike to describe his thinking. He had no doctrines and no disciples; he had only his way of life, and his fellow workers and followers.

He tried to proclaim the virtues of religion by living them—not by precept but by practice. His life was a living example of truthfulness, compassion, patient justice, tolerance and, above all, love.

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Ike's School Program Is Insufficient

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON
PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S school aid program does not represent a serious attempt to deal with the national emergency in education.

It is more than a letter of condolence to the localities and school authorities which are struggling against an enormous and growing shortage of classrooms.

The President's own commission of education, Samuel H. Hays, in its report of the current year at 370,000 classrooms. Federal cost estimates indicate that the job will cost more than a million dollars.

NOT MUCH HELP
The President has suggested only 200 million dollars in direct aid over three years which is less than the amount needed. Even if all went well and exactly as planned, it would build only a few thousand of the missing classrooms.

School authorities are equally skeptical about the proposed plans to help school districts and states. They are not sure they can have constitutional debt limits to prevent any new borrowing. In both Maine and Wisconsin, school boards have declared school construction authorities unconstitutional.

The school experts say also that figures would be at least a year before any results would show from the Eisenhower plan. Meanwhile, school enrollment is going up at a rate of more than a million a year. This year it is 30.8 million—up 22 per cent over 1950.

The President's philosophical approach provokes as much gloom in school circles as his practical suggestions. As they see it he has dealt with what they regard as the gravest internal crisis in this democracy in the spirit of a Lady Bountiful who restricts her gifts to the worthy poor.

The reference is to the President's restriction of outright grants to communities too poor to build their own schools. There will be no states and few communities willing to take the pauper's oath on this or any other aid. They would need the aid of the wealthiest states which spend proportionately the largest share of their revenues on education among the most hard-pressed.

Perhaps one trouble with the present school problem is that Washington draws to it for the most part the successful, the well-to-do and the more material citizens. Their children are not victims of the present crucial classroom shortage and as a French philosopher said, one has to give equality to the misfortunates of others.

Will Bulganin Last?

Marshall Bulganin has been a friend of Premier Malenkov's. That is one reason they give him about six months. They can be made the scapegoat just as Malenkov is the scapegoat today.

Indian Life Is Rough On Reservation

By ROBERT C. RUARK

I HAVE noticed recently big double-column ads for an organization called Arrow Inc. which is collecting funds to aid the American Indians.

NEW YORK
The headline on the ads says: "Help Save for the Indians. It's Not Enough."

Hayes was one of the six men who composed that classic photo of the Indian reservation. He was found dead at 22 on the reservation, dead of exposure. Like so many other people, he had not been able to handle the hostile world.

Hayes had tried to make it off the reservation, but had returned in despair. "I want to be out on my own," he said, "but out in Arizona the white man looks down on the Indian, and I don't stand a chance anywhere off the reservation."

Many Indians, largely of mixed blood, have been able to make it off the reservation, and are proud today of their Indian ancestry. But there are about a half-million full-blooded Indians in the country today, mostly on reserves, and they've had a pretty dry shake.

JERSEY NOTE
It is not particularly newsworthy that they are ravaged by disease, especially tuberculosis, among the Navajo, or that they have not been extensively educated, and that until recently they were denied voting privileges, or that their annual income is tiny. These facts have been hammered at a long time.

My point is that this column should not have to be written at all, because Arrow Inc., for the relief of the weighted redskin, should not be necessary.

We have been pushing the noble Indian around now ever since we came over and appropriated his country.

Our record of dispossession, exploitation, neglect and discrimination toward the Indians of this totalitarian group we are being so busy about on an international scale these days.

These efforts to help the developed and selfless workers who are carrying on his work, implementing his constructive programs

While the U. S. is teeming with surplus, Russia faces probable shortages.

Exactly! There's A Plot To Make Us Look Foolish



Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
HERE is how the diplomats view Moscow's latest political turnover. As far as the U.S.A. is concerned it is a two-way street. Nikita Khrushchev, the new backstage dictator of Russia, is vigorously anti-American, but a more belligerent than the placid, flabby Malenkov. But the reason for the turnover is said to be that Khrushchev, Purges in various Soviet republics have not been headlined in the press but they've been important. Part of them were to weed out Marshall Beria's followers; part to stamp out unrest. Malenkov's appeasement of the masses by giving them more food, more consumer goods, did not work. Unrest continued. Now Khrushchev will try sterner methods. He will grid for possible war, but more optimistic diplomats believe he can't possibly afford one.

Unrest, Shortages Bothering Russians

The climax is expected in May when there may be starvation in some areas. Whereas the U.S. now has only one-sixth of its population working as farmers, Russia has 50 per cent farming. Yet the Russian weather is a constant enemy. The reason is farm machinery, better weather, better drying conditions, better know-how, almost everything better in the U.S. than in the U.S.S.R. But to beat the rich loom of the Russian steppes.

It was Dictator Khrushchev who started the campaign to increase farm production. His idea was to lure young Russians into settling on virgin farm land, also to build up "agro cities"—other words, collective farms centered around urbanized communities. Khrushchev proposes using Henry Wallace's hybrid corn, American farm methods. He wants the U.S.S.R. to increase its population from 200 million to 300 million, but knows this is impossible unless Russia can raise

Moscow magazine, in May, 1954, referring to Malenkov as the "sparrow who could not sing."

There were also changes in Russian magazines to rewrite history so as to give credit to Khrushchev for solving various things that Malenkov had absolutely nothing to do with. For instance, Russian history was rewritten to include him among those who reorganized the Red Army after the revolution of 1917 and who helped win World War II. Actually he had little to do with either, but Russian magazines carefully went out of their way to give him credit.

They give him about six months. They can be made the scapegoat just as Malenkov is the scapegoat today.