

Industry Needed, Even If Flooded

THE story that North Carolina and other southern states sent agents into flooded northern areas to steal away damaged industries should have died quickly after New England governors expressed their shock and southern officials their indignant denials.

Instead another dose of hot air has been pumped into the fib by a Rhode Island state senator and textile union official named Frank Sgambato. Although he claimed no knowledge of southern "raiding," Sgambato asked top officials of his union to seek a U. S. Senate investigation of the reports.

Obviously, industries that move from one area to another are lured by some tempting deal hatched by a promoter at a moment of crisis. Industries pick up stakes only after careful study of hard facts indicate they will be better off somewhere else.

But silly as the raiding story is, it is entirely possible that some industries surveying their wrecked facilities may decide to move south before rebuilding. Oddly enough, Connecticut Gov. Ribicoff himself gave advice that could spur that move.

"You have an opportunity to rebuild, so rebuild soundly," he told his state. "Get the maximum economical and social benefits out of this (flood) if industry has to be rebuilt, ask yourselves if there is a different area in which it should be located."

Since many industries over the years

have decided it was worth moving South even if it meant forsaking their established plants, it is not too unlikely that some flood-damaged firms will take Ribicoff for his word.

In denying the raiding story, the head of North Carolina's Department of Conservation and Development, Ben Douglas, took exactly the right stand in saying "If New England industries want to come to North Carolina we are happy to give them all of the services we can."

Godness knows the state needs sound new industry. The latest issue of NORTH CAROLINA FACTS has more bad news about state industrial development, in the form of statistics on value added by manufacturing, a key test in determining the real wealth contributed to the economy by industry.

Total value added by manufacture during 1953 averaged \$5,996 per manufacturing employee, only 72 per cent of the national average. Only four states—Georgia, Mississippi, New Hampshire and South Carolina—had lower ratings.

Even more disagreeable is the report that total expenditures for new plants and equipment dropped four per cent in 1953 (latest figure published) while outlays were increasing nationally by more than three per cent.

North Carolina has a long way to go before it gets its share of the industrial dollar, and the state cannot be deterred by the prospect of making the state look like a graveyard.

U. S. Officials Divided As Disarmament Talks Open

By JOSEPH ALSOP

WASHINGTON THE PRACTICAL value of the Geneva conference is now to be tested for the first time at the meeting of the United Nations Disarmament Commission today. The best guide to the mood of the meeting that took place here in Washington shortly before the President left for the summit.

In those pre-Geneva weeks, no subject divided the highest echelon of policy-makers more violently than the subject of disarmament. Having been named as the President's disarmament specialist, the always ambitious Harold Stassen was now, in effect, running for high office on a disarmament platform. Stassen therefore favored bold action on disarmament at Geneva. For obvious reasons, he was also supported by the President's psychological warfare adviser, Nelson Rockefeller.

LIVELY ALARM In all three armed services, in contrast, the mere idea of a serious discussion of disarmament caused the liveliest alarms. The Pentagon was unanimous in not wanting to offer the rather hastily considered disarmament plan then being pressed by Stassen, and unanimous, too, in not wanting to offer any plan at all.

At the State Department, meanwhile, Secretary John Foster Dulles maintained the highly sceptical attitude that marked his whole approach to the summit conference. As the summit meeting grew nearer and nearer, the President's hopeful enthusiasm grew warmer and warmer. But Dulles never wavered, especially on the question of disarmament.

From his view-point that tangible results were not to be expected, FIRST STAGE Such, then, were the approaches to the problem at the crucial pre-summit meeting which the President called to work out an American disarmament policy. In its first stages, this history discussion of disarmament threatened to deteriorate into a name-calling match. The Stassen-Rockefeller approach and the Pentagon approach were diametrically opposed, and the strongest emotions were felt on both sides.

Secretary of State Dulles acted as the great reconciler. He used the same two differences of viewpoint, therefore, American policy-makers as there were before Geneva. So far as can be discovered, therefore, American pre-Geneva policy is only a refined and elaborated version of American pre-Geneva policy. A detailed program of inspection and safeguards has been prepared for presentation on Aug. 29. It will combine the two features, the mutual aerial inspection proposed by the President, plus fixed group inspection teams stationed at key rail junctions and other points where preparations for aggression may be observed, to reduce the possibility of surprise attack.

Other ideas are also in the air. Stassen has been talking of an arms freeze at existing levels. This the Pentagon hates, even al-

though an arms freeze might be better than Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson's system of gradual but continuous defense cuts. Stassen has also concluded, quite rightly, that there is little use any longer trying to control nuclear weapons. Partly this is because they are now too easy to make. Partly it is because no amount of inspection could insure the destruction of the other side's existing stocks. And partly it is because nuclear weapons control would hamper civilian atomic development.

But with nuclear weapons control held to be impossible, Stassen naturally inclines toward limitation of the means of delivering nuclear weapons. That will mean sacrificing the Strategic Air Command, the only real remaining element of American offensive power. And before anything of that sort is attempted, both the Pen-



STASSEN, ROCKEFELLER AND WILSON One Would Not Agree

though the end is first made possible and then insured.

Moreover, there are still the same wide differences of viewpoint about disarmament among the policy-makers as there were before Geneva. So far as can be discovered, therefore, American pre-Geneva policy is only a refined and elaborated version of American pre-Geneva policy. A detailed program of inspection and safeguards has been prepared for presentation on Aug. 29. It will combine the two features, the mutual aerial inspection proposed by the President, plus fixed group inspection teams stationed at key rail junctions and other points where preparations for aggression may be observed, to reduce the possibility of surprise attack.

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Tom Sawyer To The Contrary...

A SURE sign of a summer ending and school taking in is a newspaper or magazine picture of the reluctant putting by of a fishing pole or some other symbol of the Huck Finn tradition. If the photograph catches a frown or a line of sadness in a boy's face, so much better the demonstration of how youth despises the dwindling down of unencumbered days.

The pictures are customary and probably appreciated by adults who spend the long years stoking the educational engine with food, clothes, taxes, and fees, and who have lived long enough to share Robert Frost's question:

When to the heart of man
Was it ever less than a treason
To go with the grace of things,
To yield with a grace to reason,
And bow and accept the end
Of a love or a season?

But it's doubtful if feet turning schoolward drag so heavily as the pictures suggest. Perhaps some even run back to the rooms of parsing and spelling and new-selling things.

There is more to school than figures to add and dates to remember. There are friendships and rivalries to renew,

eager ears for summer's tales, gossip to trade and games to play. There are hundreds of eyes to admire a new dress or hair dangerously cut to a startling style. There are teachers, besides parents, to complain of and also to love through the medium of a book. About all there is "something to do" and pals "who understand." And when was a camping trip more adventurous than the skillful exchange of a note, the furtive bite of an apple, before the eyes of a watchful teacher.

Surely, for some, the fishing poles go easily away.

Will Margaret?

WILL Margaret marry Peter? You must tell us, the British press says to Buckingham Palace, for it is not proper that the gossip and conjecture count.

This situation surely is a perfect example of people not knowing when they have a good thing.

Just how long has it been since the world could follow a good soap opera without listening to a commercial?

Reckless Ways Of Millionaires Aid Italian Communists

By MARQUIS CHILDS

A SUCCESSION of American millionaires has used every form of push and persuasion since 1945 to try to end Italy's chronic unemployment and improve the miserable lot of the lowest one-third of this seriously overpopulated country. To this end the United States has spent several billion dollars and substantial help in one form or another is still coming.

Despite that intensive effort, it has often seemed that the fundamental relationships remained unchanged with the rich getting richer

and the poor, if not poorer, a little more aware of their poverty and therefore more inclined to look for the gaudy promises of communism. One handicap has been an owning class of the most reckless irresponsibility. While they are small in numbers they have advertised their indifference to Italy's future with a gay abandon that the more profigate Roman emperors might have envied.

LISTS PUBLISHED In recent years the Roman tax collector has published figures showing what most of the wealthy

declare as their income and what the collector by diligent effort estimates is their real income. On the last list one of Rome's greatest aristocrats, Prince Alessandro Torlonia, was shown to have listed an income of \$17,000 while the tax collector put his income at \$1,275,000. On \$17,000 as the official Roman were fully aware, the prince could scarcely pay the wages of the liveried grooms who exercise his horses. The custom where such great discrepancies exist is to settle for a relatively small sum.

But for all the discouragement that Americans have felt from time to time changes for the bet-

ter can be noted today. The policy introduced by Ambassador Clare Boothe Luce of enforcing the provision in the American aid law that no one in Italy should be allowed to receive any part of a Communist dominated union is beginning to pay off. The strength of the Communist unions is down to 50 per cent from a peak of about 67 per cent. In the great Fiat plants in northern Italy it is down to 37 per cent.

Granted that part of this is window dressing for the benefit of America, much of it represents real gain for the free unions.

Land reform has been too little and too late, but when this has been added that the problem has some resemblance to hailing out the ocean with a teacup. Of Italy's nine and one-half million farmers more than a million own farms of less than one acre. Three and one-half million have farms ranging from one to 12 acres with only 500 individuals own farms in excess of 2,500 acres. Under the land reform program about 6 per cent of the arable land which is one-third of the total, has been redistributed and this has taken off some of the pressure in the south.

But the real hope in Italy today is oil which has been discovered in considerable quantity in a half-dozen states in the north. Enclaves in the North to Sicily in the south. Inevitably, these rich finds have become involved in politics. Both Italian politics and the politics of big oil on a world scale.

Prior to these discoveries the Italian State Corporation, ENI, headed by Enrico Mattei, who is a kind of national hero both be-

cause of his part in the resistance movement during the war and because of his success in returning a large profit for ENI, had found the oil as well as the gas and he had the backing of many Christian Democrats, the liberal left of center and it was, of course, very convenient for the Communists to support him against the "foreign oil imperialists."

But several American oil companies including Standard of New Jersey were insisting on the right to participate both on the basis of long prior exploration and because it was argued the Italian Company simply did not have the capital to develop presently the great riches under the Italian earth.

AGREEMENT SEEN Now compromise is believed in sight. The government is sending a commission of experts to the United States to study state and federal oil-lease laws in order to work out a basis of agreement with private companies for development of the rich deposits exclusive of the Po Valley which for the time being will be left to Mattei.

If half the prognostications are true it should mean the beginning of a new era in Italian politics to the state from the oil will make possible an expanding program of social and economic reform. That at any rate, is the hope and since a great many people here have lived on hope for a long time perhaps they can go a little longer with this glittering promise on the horizon.

The Paperbacks: A Literary Revival?

US CRITICS who tunnel through mountains of fact and fancy about the popularity of paperback books and the nation's taste for a literary renaissance are indulging in wild and wistful dreaming. It is true that more than 260 million pocket-size editions are published a year but there is no evidence that the pocketbook phenomenon is producing anything resembling a great creative revival.

Even as evidence of improved cultural standards in the United States, the wide circulation of paperback books is an unweighed and unevaluated quantity. And besides, as Delmore Schwartz has said, to speak of a renaissance before it has occurred is more or less like discussing the future of an unborn child and the year 2055.

What is really important about mounting pocketbook sales is the reassurance it offers that people have not completely forgotten the art of solitary reading. Hundreds of thousands of people are rediscovering books as they might rediscover old friends. They may not always be good books but at least they open the reader's eyes to a cultural enterprise he may have forgotten when the television set was installed in the living room.

The belief had been growing for years that serious reading was a vanishing habit among Americans. It even became the custom in certain circles to consider anyone who read a great deal rather old. The solitary reader was suspected of having other secret vices. The distrust is vanishing now that pocketbook buying is becoming a popular national custom. Anyone can walk into a drugstore or news stand these days and buy a paperback without being put down as a highbrow.

Unfortunately, many of the pocketbooks available are not worth the paper they are printed on. They are pure rubbish, spiced with liberal doses of sex and sadism and encased in lurid covers. Yet sandwiched between some of these crude potboilers are some truly outstanding titles. Thus, great works of literature are given a unique opportunity to compete on equal terms with Mickey Spillane. The average reader will be attracted to both cultural levels. He may not recognize the subtle shades of artistic merit in the two types of literature but at least he will read both and that in itself is a triumph. With greater reading experience he may become more discriminating.

Millions of Americans have been introduced to the books of William Faulkner, Ernest Hemingway, Ernest Hemingway, Thomas Wolfe, John Steinbeck, Tennessee Williams, Robert Penn Warren, Carson McCullers, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Irwin Shaw, John Dos Passos, Arthur Miller, Thriftly American readers can also find inexpensive editions of works by the modern masters of other lands—Andre Gide, James Joyce, D. H. Lawrence, Jean Paul Sartre and Bernard Shaw. A whole host of fascinating new Italian novelists—including Alberto Moravia, Elio Vittorini, Giuseppe Bertolucci, Enzo Flaminio and Vasco Pratolini—has been introduced to this country through pocketbooks.

Many literary classics are also available to the discriminating reader at low cost, including W. H. D. Ross's excellent translations of Homer's Iliad and Odyssey. One firm's paperback list includes such names as Soren Kierkegaard, George Santayana, Henry James, Lionel Trilling, D. H. Lawrence, Joseph Conrad, Henri Alain Fournier, Bernard Berenson, Edmund Willson, Henry Green and W. J. Cash.

Admittedly, one of the most interesting developments has been the appearance of attractive literary samplers devoted to new fiction, poetry, drama and criticism. New World's Warmsco's excellent translations of Homer's Iliad and Odyssey. One firm's paperback list includes such names as Soren Kierkegaard, George Santayana, Henry James, Lionel Trilling, D. H. Lawrence, Joseph Conrad, Henri Alain Fournier, Bernard Berenson, Edmund Willson, Henry Green and W. J. Cash.

The pocketbooks have produced no genuinely new movements in literature. There is no recognizable avant garde represented in such "adventurous" paperbacks as New World's Warmsco.



"Now explain the principle of this earth-launched satellite again, son, but slower... It's been a long time since your old dad had High School physics."

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Editors' note — While Drew Pearson is on a brief vacation his usual column will be written by members of his staff.

WASHINGTON EVEN his enemies—and he seems to have a lot of them—agree that the best break Adlai Stevenson has received in his comeback battle for the Democratic presidential nomination—and he can use a few breaks—was when Gov. Allan Shivers of Texas came out against him.

A Boost To regular Democrats, every knock is a boost from the Dixiecrat Texan who supported the Republicans in 1952. However, Shivers said some things in his anti-Stevenson blast that many regular Democrats would agree with, much to the delight of Shivers. He also left unsaid a number of things that Democratic leaders, outside the Stevenson camp, have been saying privately.

A prominent Democrat who doesn't want to be quoted sized up the 1956 Chicago contest as follows: "If Gov. Stevenson is a candidate, he will be strongly supported in the early balloting. He will have a good many pledged dele-

Shivers Blast May Help Stevenson

gates, including probably a sizable number from the South, but after the third ballot they will be looking around for the exits.

"In my opinion, Stevenson's problem will be controlling the itchy feet among his delegates," this leader added. "You must remember, he made it by only one and a half votes at the 1952 convention in Chicago."

Adlai's 'Drawbacks' — What is the story behind the sudden allergy to the man who led the Democratic ticket in 1952? Adlai Stevenson, a plainspoken person himself, probably would like it better if they were brought out into the open. Here are some of the drawbacks which have been dogging his comeback trail.

1. Stevenson was defeated decisively once by Eisenhower. Even under the best possible campaign conditions, a defeated candidate has at least one strike on his record.

2. Democratic foes of Stevenson claim he is too much of the suave, "city slicker" type to compete successfully against the popular and earthy Eisenhower. All Dem-

Literary Journeys Goals Of The Writer

By ANTON CHEKHOV

In 'Selected Letters' BEAR IN mind that writers who are considered immortal or just plain good and who inviolate us have one very important trait in common: They are going somewhere and call you by their name; you sense, not with your mind but with all your being, that they have an aim. Looking at some of them in terms of their calibre you will see that they have immediate aims—the abolition of serfdom, the liberation of their country, political matters, beauty or just vodka; others have remote aims—God,

life beyond the grave, the happiness of mankind and so on. The best of them are realistic and paint life as it is, but because every line is saturated with feeling, with the sense of life, you feel, in addition to life as it is, life as it should be, and you are entranced.

Quote, Unquote

People do things at conventions which the conventions would forbid them to do at home.—Kingsport (Tenn.) Times

Top Liberal

This leader, incidentally, is one of the top liberals in the Democratic Party, but he told the ADA representatives that he opposed the Stevenson nomination in 1952 and would be against Stevenson again at the 1956 convention in Chicago.

"Why?" asked his visitor. "Partly because I don't think he can beat Eisenhower and partly, to be very frank with you, because he is too closely associated with your organization," was the reply.

Know Better

"Do you think that you are falling for that propaganda that the ADA is 'left wing,'" said the ADA spokesman. "You know better than that. Do you really think we are left wing?"

"Of course I don't think you are left wing or anything of that sort," replied the Democrat. "I assure you are not. But the general public does not share my opinion."