

Fire From Left And Right Hits Constitution Committee

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON SELDOM has any committee of Congress drawn such blasts of criticism even before its work begins as have been directed against the Senate subcommittee on constitutional rights.

There are many reasons why this should be so. First the committee will deal with the issue of American freedoms versus the security measures, which have been constantly expanded in recent years to meet the threat of the Communist conspiracy.

Exploration The examination of the Bill of Rights of the constitution and the damage that may or may not have been done in the interest of security to this fundamental charter of American freedom, the committee has proposed exploring at the outset the First Amendment and the guarantee of religious freedom with the separation of church and state.

The fear is that such deep feelings will be stirred as to impair any further usefulness of the committee. The basic issue of church and state, it has been pointed out, should be left to the courts to be resolved within the framework of the Constitution.

Authority Fortunately, the chairman of the constitutional rights subcommittee is Senator Thomas C. Hennings Jr. (D-Mo.), who is one of the principal authorities in the Senate on the constitution and the constitutional law Hennings' concept from the time that he took over the chairmanship has been to develop the positive aspects of the Bill of Rights and what it has meant over the years to the citizen in the positive aspects of the Bill of Rights to its present position of world power and unprecedented prosperity and productivity.

Staff In selecting a staff the committee has come in for criticism. The goal was to choose specialists for their knowledge and background in the field of constitutional freedoms. Chief of staff is the committee's Marshall MacDuffie, a former New Dealer who also has been associated with one of the most conservative of the big New York law firms. MacDuffie since the war also has made trips to Soviet Russia and when Hennings asked him what was the principal difference between the Soviet Union and the United States, MacDuffie promptly replied: "The Bill of Rights and all that it means in guaranteeing freedoms nonexistent in Russia."

MacDuffie promptly replied: "The Bill of Rights and all that it means in guaranteeing freedoms nonexistent in Russia." The chief hearings counsel is Lon Hocker, distinguished St. Louis lawyer and a Republican. The most recent addition to the staff is Miss Eleanor Bontecou, who is Miss Eleanor Bontecou, formerly assistant director of Cornell University's Research in Civil Liberties. Miss Bontecou is one of the outstanding authorities in the field.

Although the hearings do not begin until early October, the subcommittee already has proved one thing, if any proof were needed. That is that the issue of civil and constitutional rights is perhaps the most burning issue in America today. On the one hand are those who fear that American freedoms are being eroded away with the guarantees contained in the Bill of Rights nullified in the name of security. On the other hand are those who believe that the Communist conspiracy is such a grave threat to the free way of life, with proof provided once again in the official report on Red infiltration and espionage in Australia, that almost any measures are justified to defeat it.

It is interesting to examine all the guarantees in the Bill of Rights, the committee has staked out a large order and particularly civil liberties. There is a desire to examine as objectively as possible the issue that touches the lives of each and every American, present and future.

The 'Still' Sunday Birth Of The Blue Laws By HARRY GOLDEN In The Carolina Institute

CHARLOTTE is again agitating about the Sunday Blue Laws. The law now prohibiting Sunday movies began in 1909 and 1910. This is the first of the Sunday service laws. The question remains: Do the churches need the civil arm of government to help their attendance suffer, and if it did suffer, should the arm of civil government be used?

My interesting thing about the Sunday Blue Law is that it is entirely Jewish. Nowhere in the world has there ever been an idea of a "still" Sabbath except among the Orthodox Jews and the Protestant sects of the British Isles, and of course in America where the tie with the mother country was strongest. In New England the idea that the Sabbath was of modern times. This is the reason that some roundists have advanced the idea that the people of the British Isles are the true tribes of Israel. There is a fringe of Jewish people in Britain which still adheres to the idea.

FRUGAL IDEA Jews, of course, had broken with the Jewish tradition of the "still" Sabbath when he said "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath." They prevailed in Christianity until some of the Protestant sects of the British Isles (and America) literally returned to Judaism in their basic theology (God is sovereign) and in general practice, only the open Bible on the altar and no other adornment. In the ghetto life of the Jews and in the agrarian civilization of the Jewish Palestine, it was possible to adhere to the rigors of the "still" Sabbath. My mother would tear open the laundry package on the Sabbath and wash her clothes. Presbyterians always ate cold fishes on the Sabbath and held away the newspapers to be read on Monday.

Art Of Irrelevance Our times do not encourage the literature of disrepute. There are many incoherent writers, few discursive ones; many to ask whether we are drifting, only to find that we are. The art of irrelevance has now become the act of impertinence, only to find that we are drifting. This is a matter for mourning, for while any fool can weary you by sticking to a single point, only an intellect that makes one entertain you by salutation amid a thousand points. The self-centered mind cannot rival in interest the mind that is, in a sense, continually beside itself. I am thinking of course, only of those cases in which real eccentricity is married to equally real intellectual power, producing, as in "Tristram Shandy," a masterpiece of the roundabout. —Clifton Fadiman in "Farty of One."

Quote, Unquote Must be great winter programs coming up — some dealers are setting up the old Triple A or Memphis Press-Scimitar.



1954 The Register and Tribune Staff Illustration

"Sure, safety belts in cars would make driving a lot safer, either that, or keep women off the roads entirely..."

People's Platform An Elephant Out Strolling

Charlotte The elephant stories are going the rounds, the writer wishes to relate a little incident which happened in Charlotte shortly before the turn of the century.

My wife was the daughter of the Mr. and Mrs. John F. Orr, living at 508 East Avenue. Mrs. Orr very religiously attended prayer meeting at the First Baptist on N. Tryon St. on Wednesday nights, and she would walk home by the square and then cross the Seaboard tracks on the way home. The underpass on East Trade had not been built at that time.

She did not come home from prayer meeting one night in town, and they had a habit of loading the animals near the intersection of the railroad tracks and East Trade St. Just as Mr. Orr was starting out the door he met a policeman holding his wife by the arm, and another lady, his friend, on the other arm. One of the elephants had gotten loose, and was starting toward the square. He met these two ladies who became frightened and dived into a colored restaurant for protection. They became so unnerved that they had to be escorted home by an officer.

Estes Nominated For 'Stupid' Remark Editors: The News: Charlotte I SUGGEST that the president of the Humane Society be sent into the swamps to say, "Come here, little Vicki, and let me scratch behind your ears. No one is going to shoot or hurt a darling little animal like you." Let me see it in my yard though.



A HEFFALUMP One Went Walking

Shoot It Now, Take No Chance Charlotte I SUGGEST that the president of the Humane Society be sent into the swamps to say, "Come here, little Vicki, and let me scratch behind your ears. No one is going to shoot or hurt a darling little animal like you." Let me see it in my yard though.

From The Richmond News Leader The Hellible Horrorlamp DOWN at Charlotte, N. C., by the papers, the hunt continues for a 6-year-old Indian elephant which escaped from an amusement park. The commissioners of Mecklenburg County called out bulldozers to dig some deep pits in the hope that Vicki—that is the elephant's name—can be persuaded to fall into one of them.

The fallacies of this approach were explored long ago by two eminent students of deep thinking, Pigeot and Winnie the Pooh. They, too, decided to dig a Very Deep Pit, in the hope that a heffalump, would come walking along, humming a little song, and looking up at the sky, wondering if it would rain, and then stumble into the Very Deep Pit before he knew what had happened.

The big problem, and perhaps the commissioners of Mecklenburg County have discovered this already, lies in deciding just where to dig the Very Deep Pit. Ideally, said Pigeot, it would be "somewhere where a heffalump was."

Drew Pearson's GOP Studying Henry Wallace Farm Plan Washington House to come up with a concrete, far-reaching farm program. Otherwise, he warned, the Republican Party might lose the entire farm vote.

Development No. 2 The White House has asked the Soil Conservation Service to answer charges that Eisenhower has hurt the Soil Conservation Service. To farmers, soil conservation is sacred. And unfortunately the cuts, shifts and shake-ups instituted in the conservation service are attributed directly to Eisenhower since his brother Milton made recommendations direct to the White House. In this case the blame can't be shifted to the bloody, unblown head of Secretary Benson.

Development No. 3 The Republicans took to Denver a new plan to limit farm acreage and take excess acreage out of production. Old System Considerable criticism of the plan was voiced off-record in the Len Hall sessions, on the ground that it would exactly like the old Henry Wallace system of paying farmers not to produce. Some GOP commentators were disappointed out that Secretary Benson had already taken over the Brannan Plan, despite the terrific farm barrage raised against it in 1952, and had applied to the courts to warn it would be suicidal to line up with Henry Wallace's plan to pay farmers to hold away the newspapers to be read on Monday.

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In League With Good Government

WHEN husbands gather to exchange stories about the League of Women Voters, someone is sure to revive Warner Oliver's classic about the perplexed young matron who was making her debut at a league meeting in Pennsylvania. She sat silently through a two-hour discussion of the intricacies of foreign trade policies. When it was all over, she thanked her hosts profusely, declaring that she was convinced now that she should join the league.

"I'm awfully glad I came," she said, "because I was so terribly confused about international trade. Of course, I'm still confused but on a much higher plane."

Charlotte has had a league since 1947. Its members, like the young Pennsylvanians, may be groping around in various stages of confusion about the key issues of the day but they give no evidence of it. On the contrary, the local league is obviously one of the best-informed groups in the city—bar none. Furthermore, like its sister organizations across the nation, it recognizes that confusion is an acquired state of mind and can be substantially alleviated.

Today the league opened a two-week drive for funds. Its goal is modest—\$2,815—but its program is not. It deserves the community's support.

Most recent events have seen Charlotte women out of a condition of encephalic, housewife drudgery and into a state of high civic consciousness that can be traced directly or indirectly to the league.

The organization has helped promote this surge of civic consciousness by teaching that unless women—or men either—exercise their hard-won rights as citizens, those rights are virtually without value. It has explained the inner workings of government to thousands of housewives. Well does it know that knowledge is one sure way to keep democracy hale and hardy.

Stimulated by the league, many women have marched directly into the political arena for combat with the more sophisticated male. Men occasionally charge that these female invaders do a poor job because of their relative inexperience. This argument has been answered rather sharply by Ambassador to Italy Clare Boothe Luce.

It is hard to imagine how women could have made a worse mess of things than the so-called experienced politicians, statesmen and diplomats have made so far in our country.

Women have no reason at all to adopt a defensive attitude about their own record of performance in the cruel world of politics. They may have come on the political scene fairly late in history but they have learned their lessons rapidly and well. There are a number of rather sensationally successful women in politics today and Mrs. Luce can certainly be numbered among them.

And there is no doubt about it. Due largely to the work of the league, women are taking an ever increasing interest in politics and government everywhere. The trend is good for American women and good for American democracy.

At 632 M.P.H. Appearances Dissolve

IT'S A WONDER anything ever came of Lt. Col. John Paul Stapp. He doesn't do a thing for the Air Force uniform, except bulge the waistband of the trousers with a middle-age paunch. No dash at all in the way he wears his cap. His face is rather placid. His teeth may be pearly but they don't flash. His no charm on the lecture platform. Seems rather dull and commonplace. Obviously never read a book on influencing people. Not a thing in his appearance marks any importance.

But this Air Force colonel has done a thing that eventually will touch the lives of every automobile and plane passenger in the nation. He has ridden a rocket sled from 632 miles per hour to a dead stop in 1.4 seconds—expecting a force an auto driver would feel if he drove 50 miles per hour head-on into a brick wall—and thereby proved the human body can withstand almost unbelievable pressure if it can be kept from contact with solid surfaces. Thus, in part, the talk that auto crash injuries can be cut 35-50 per cent by safety belts and safety padding. Thus rearward facing of Air Force transport plane seats. Thus upward adjustment of force levels jet pilots can be expected to safely withstand in banking out at high speed and high altitude.

Col. Stapp plans eventually to ride his rocket sled at 1,000 miles per hour. What happens, regardless of whether he ever knows, will constitute another huge chunk of information about the capacity of man to survive at space age speeds.

This plain, chunky man is, in short, a hero. An Atlas. A Titan. And his contributions to mankind speak volumes about the appearances of things and the way things really are.

Look What Happened To Baseball

THE World Series is still days away but the sportscasters are already conspiring in stealthy whispers about how to confuse John Q. Fan with their descriptions. It won't be difficult. Baseball is no longer a game of runs, hits and errors. It is a game of "bumpers," "hingles" and "boots."

Furthermore, it is a game in which the good, old-fashioned home run has become the "four-master" and the double play long ago became the "twin killing."

A base is not even a base any longer. It is a "cushion," "pillow," "station," "sack," "bag" or "hassock."

To make matters worse, the pitcher is seldom described to the lady any more as anything but a "hurter," "twirler" or "moundcrawler."

And certain pitchers are known as "scatter arms," "meal tickets" and "houdinis" who may throw "nothing balls," "gopher balls" or even a "dyspno" or two.

The more act of describing a double play has become a rite so tortured and incomprehensible as to bear resemblance to a tobacco auctioneer solemnizing a sale to the makers of Lucky Strikes.

We long ago gave up trying to persuade the sport boys to speak English. So, in sheer self defense, we have assembled from several authoritative sources an ample collection of their fractured phrases for the use of ordinary mortals at World Series time. We are perfectly willing to share some of the saltier items with our readers if they will sit quietly and pay strict attention. We may ask questions later.

After all, you're the one who will need this stuff. It won't.

We rooted for the Giants. A LA CARTE—Playing the ball with one hand. ANNIE OAKLEY—Base on a hunch. APPLE COMES UP—Falls in pitch. AROUND THE HORN—Side-arm curve to a hitter when the count is 3 and 2; also tossing the ball around the infield after a buntout. BANJO HITTER—Player who can't hit a long ball. BARBER—Player who does a lot of kidding. BASE ON STONES—Hit given a batter when a potential ground out hits pebbles. BEE KENT—Major leaguer. BILL TELEM—Player who is never wrong. BRINGLE—Base hit. BRISNER—Scraper's single. BROODER—A fluke hit over the infield. BUCKET HITTER—Player who steps back from a pitched ball.

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Train Your Children With God's Help

Charlotte PARENTS live for Christ and train their children to live a clean Christian life they won't have any regrets. God gives us our children and we are responsible for the way we train them. If we ask God to help us train them He will grant our wish.

Development No. 1 — One thing that didn't leak out is that, after "school," usually optimistic GOP Chairman Hall begged and pleaded with the White

House to come up with a concrete, far-reaching farm program. Otherwise, he warned, the Republican Party might lose the entire farm vote.

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