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THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1956

Gov. Hodges Should Scorn Interposition

THE action of the four southern governors meeting in Richmond to endorse the obsolete doctrine of interposition is faintly reminiscent of the fable of the scorpion and the turtle.

They require understanding and tact and discretion and large helpings of good common sense. We place ourselves among those many southerners who were disappointed with the Supreme Court's decision banning segregation in the public schools.

It seems that a scorpion who was a poor swimmer asked a turtle to carry him on his back across the river. "Don't be silly," snorted the turtle. "You'll sting me while I'm swimming and I'll drown."

Gov. Hodges. If given the support of the people, can help North Carolina find that acceptable solution. His refusal to join with Govs. Thomas B. Stanley of Virginia, George Bell Timmerman Jr. of South Carolina, J. P. Coleman of Mississippi and Marvin Griffin of Georgia showed good sense, despite the self-conscious lameness of his excuse (the state legislature is not in session).

The governors' protest—based upon a legal principle long ago rejected—likewise had nothing to do with logic. It simply represented an aged-anxiety attitude about the consequences of desegregation. Furthermore, it is their nature to resist, however logically.

But a dignified waiting period has passed. An error of omission can now be corrected with appropriate grace. Gov. Hodges can now express his disapproval of the doctrine of interposition. He should do it forthwith.

Interposition has respectable origins in American history. They extend to Jefferson, Madison and John C. Calhoun. But the line of descent did not directly to the Civil War—and there ended.

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Even before 1860, the doctrine of interposition as a constitutional theory was probably never held by a majority of the states or of the American people at any one time.

It is possible that he did not wish to embarrass his hosts and colleagues in Richmond. But a dignified waiting period has passed. An error of omission can now be corrected with appropriate grace.

Disagreement with the Supreme Court on the question of segregation is one thing. Defiance of the court—and the claim that interposition does not necessarily imply defiance is sheer deception—is quite another. It is also slightly less than courageous, for in defying the court interpositionists refuse to come to grips with the monumental problems involved in meeting the requirements of the law.

Footnote HERE is what other leading North Carolina newspapers say about the doctrine of interposition: "Interposition may serve the South as a means of dramatizing its opposition to the court's decision, but it stands little or no chance of reversing the high court's reinterpretation of constitutional law."

The New South: Late But Present

FIFTY years ago a Durham high school senior named A. L. M. Wiggins delivered a commencement speech entitled The New South. His remarks, like Henry Grady's, were a little provincial, but highly prophetic. "It's only come in the last 15 years—but it's here!" Mr. Wiggins says in an interview published in the current issue of U. S. News & World Report.

or developed, naturally in response to better educated and better trained leaders, availability of raw materials, the fact that the white man's sympathy in the South has turned to resentment. In the Charlotte News of Dec. 31, another writer states, "The white race owes the Negro nothing." She also states that she will never allow a Negro to live on her farm except by the back door.

The Last Laugh's On Everybody

THE RALEIGH NEWS and OBSERVER is much like the proverbial mother-in-law. She is a pry and a scold and militantly virtuous but, bless her truculent old heart, we love her just the same.

While awaiting official word, the N. & O. beat us to the punch. They came back with some mighty kind words, but remembered what the experts confirmed for us: No state or federal law requires a candidate to be a resident of the congressional district in which he seeks office.

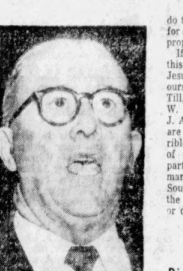
Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

SEN. Barry Goldwater of Arizona took the floor of the Senate last week to raise the issue of revealing the details of the Interior McKay's sale of part of the Rogue River National Forest for only \$5 an acre.

They seemed so anxious that his solicitor general, Clarence Davis, actually released his 17-page report revealing the timberland one day after a new assay report had been made and without waiting for the assay report to reach Washington. Davis even telephoned Oregon to see what the assay report on the ore was going to be. He didn't wait for the report to be mailed in, he was so anxious to get rid of the timberland which other secretaries of the interior had refused to part with.

People's Platform Republican Farm Policy: A Political Lulabue?

Canter, S. C. I WANT to compliment you on your editorial on farm problems in last Monday's News. If young Russell held his plow to the plowshare, however, either he or I have been holding it in an awfully awkward position and must have looked pretty ridiculous!



SECRETARY BENSON

do to you, do you even so to them as they do to the lay and the prophets." Matt. 7:12. If we do not choose to take this up with God, a picture of Jesus Christ cannot save us from ourselves, for as the Rev. J. A. DeLaine of South Carolina are without doubt not only horrible spectacles in the recovery of the two states involved in particular, but are believed by many to be characters of the South generally, regardless of the way the chips of advantage or disadvantage might fall.



"How does this sound for the 1956 platform? The Republican Party will create conditions providing for farm prosperity..."

VITAL LINK

Too long farming has been regarded as something a person could do in his spare time. If the farm failed, and its problems have been neglected according to the farmer has long since outgrown the idea of thinking of it as a very vital link in the chain of our national economy. His progress and well-being should depend on it.

Rival' Pooh-Poohs Spotted 'Pick-Up'

Editors, The News: Whiteville I CLAIM to have a car painted that arouses more attention wherever I go than the spotted poohs now, and they write my mother and sister often. It took an artist six days to do the job. If I stop at a stop light for the one minute I get the attention of everyone near enough to see the car. I get the biggest kick out of riding through a town and watching the faces of the people who see the car. I have actually had to stop the car at times until I could control my laughing. The first time I drove the car out to a certain drive in a beautiful girl jumped out of a car yelling, "I want to ride in that beautiful car!"

The Lowly Mule Is Not Forgotten

Editors, The News: Marion In the editorial section of Saturday's Charlotte News I noticed a note from the Thomasville (Ala.) Times to the effect that mules don't seem to have a soul—a dog or a horse, that poets write pretty verses about horses and dogs and even cats, but the mule—never a line. Correction please!

A Plea For Reason In Racial Questions

Canter, S. C. Editor, The News: AS A reader of The News for some time, I believe it is my duty to say that since the United States Supreme Court's decision May 17, 1954, banning segregation in public places, the Peoples Platform have been both disturbing and interesting.

Help Get 'John Q' Out Of The Squeeze

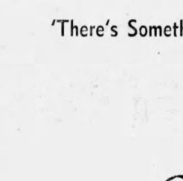
Editors, The News: Charlotte WHY is it necessary to have to make trip after trip to the State Highway Dept. in Wilkinson Blvd. on Gastonia Road to be advised that you will have to continue visits with the subjects of the top brass, until you catch a vacancy. When one sees into a business establishment to make a purchase they as a rule have one there to take care of your needs and your money.

Smaller Towns Have More TV

Editors, The News: Charlotte MR. Benson can't carry his Mr. L. far enough with regard to another outlet for TV in Charlotte. There are towns closer and smaller who have more than one station.

There's Something Familiar About That Idea

Editors, The News: Charlotte I BELIEVE I have seen that idea before. It is a familiar one. It is the idea of a trade, not aid.



Some folks don't treat mules with respect. They say they have no intellect.

EXTREME VIEWS

Here are some expressions to which I refer. In the Dec. 21, Charlotte News, one writer states: "The white man's sympathy in the South has turned to resentment." In the Charlotte News of Dec. 31, another writer states, "The white race owes the Negro nothing."



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McKay's Generosity

McKay, though nicknamed "Generous Doug," is not usually quite that generous. In this case, however, he has been a generous little note direct from the President.

New Chapter

While some of the facts first appeared in this column Sept. 29, 1954, I have now found that I omitted—or rather failed to discover—an interesting part of the story.

Big Spending

The Independent Natural Gas Association has officially spent \$48,000 to influence Congress, according to its latest surveying report, also the General Committee, \$75,000; the Committee for Pipelines, \$89,000; and the American Petroleum Institute, \$73,000.

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Ike's Note Set Stage For Give-Away

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Scott Backs Gas Bill

The Houston Post lists Sen. Cotton of New Hampshire, whose constituents have everything to gain from cheap gas, as lining up for the bill; also Sen. Butler of Maryland, Young of North Dakota, Payne of Maine, Johnston of South Carolina, Scott of North Carolina, Kuchel of California, Frear of Delaware, Hickenlooper of Iowa, Mundt of South Dakota, and Stennis of Mississippi. All these states are predominantly gas-consuming, not gas-producing.

Quote, Unquote

Trouble is when you see some guy with a big, fancy convertible who you don't know whether he is smart enough to earn it or so dumb he missed one of the 864,000 questions. — Florida Times-Union.

Platform Letter A Masterpiece

Editors, The News: Rockville, Md. FOF SOME time I have kept a close watch on letters to People's Platform on the Supreme Court's ruling.

Education Group Liked Coverage

Editors, The News: Charlotte (N. C.) BEBEL of the Charlotte Unit, North Carolina Education Association, may I take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for your interest and publicity for our January meeting and for our speaker, Mrs. Billie Davis. We appreciate your continued interest in the educational affairs of our community.