



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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The Case Against 'Interposition'

Finest weapon yet grasped by Dixie's most ardent champions of segregation is the "doctrine of interposition."
It is little more than a specter from the republic's tortured past, a false principle long ago discarded.

One is that the citizen has certain individual rights which no one can deny him. These are outlined in the first ten amendments to the constitution, known as the Bill of Rights.
Another is the concept of dual sovereignty, under which certain powers are enjoyed by the states and others by the national government.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Interposition lies buried with the Civil War dead. It cannot be resurrected in 1956.

Finally, there is the concept of separation of powers, whereby no branch of the government shall be given sovereign power.

According to historians, the belief in interposition — or "nullification" — is based on the theory that the union of states is a voluntary one. Each member retains its sovereignty. Therefore, for purposes of convenience, certain powers of government are delegated to an agent, the federal government. But if, in the opinion of the state, the federal government usurps a right belonging to the state, it is to be considered an act of nullification. It may nullify the unauthorized act.

Whenever a state steps on the domain of government that action shall be null and void.

The earliest assertions of the doctrine came in 1789-99 in the Kentucky and Virginia resolutions protesting the Alien and Sedition Acts of Congress. These were written, respectively, by Thomas Jefferson and James Madison but were never pursued to a final test. The Sedition Act expired under its own terms in 1801.

But if we are to have a government of law and not of arbitrary will there must be a body to enforce the law. That body in the United States is the Supreme Court, the keystone of the arch of constitutional government.

There are records of a form of interposition being practiced in Pennsylvania in 1804 by a governor who ordered out state troops to resist a federal court decree. Later, Georgia and Alabama forcibly prevented the execution of federal laws and court decrees relating to the Indians. Once the Georgia House of Representatives even passed a bill providing that any federal marshal who attempted to enforce a particular federal court decree would be hanged by the neck.

It is the same when the federal government takes action encroaching upon the rights of states or individuals.

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Thus the principles of law and political practice place the guardianship of the constitution in the hands of the judiciary. But the constitution draws the lines in only general terms. They are in constant need of interpretation and reinterpretation.

Interposition has a seductive appeal for many a southern statesman. As a legal proposition it has no validity, but an error which has led to trouble in the past and promises nothing better in the future.

It was a reinterpretation of the constitution which produced the Supreme Court decision of May 17, 1954, banning segregation in the public schools. The ancient separate-but-equal doctrine was upset. It was, to us, a disappointing decision for the separate-but-equal philosophy seemed well-rooted in law and in logic.

Whether one agrees or disagrees with the U. S. Supreme Court's decision on segregation in the public schools is beside the point. All Americans—North and South—are united in a devotion to the constitution and to constitutional government as we have known it through the years. The traditions and principles of the United States government is based as worthy of the respect of every citizen.

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Matusow: A Liar By Any Measure

The Senate Internal Security Subcommittee is again concerned with Harvey Matusow, the liar. It was in a report Matusow was telling the truth when, in testimony ranging over three years, he branded 244 persons with Red ties. Matusow was lying, the committee said, when in October, 1954, he reputedly called those accusations and branded himself as "a perpetual and habitual liar" who, having been a Communist, was earning his bread by tabbing others as Communists before any investigating committee that came along.

It is especially hoped that the "Golden Rule Series, the Modern McGuffey's Readers," will teach Johnny to read and do right, too, but this is a ticklish proposition. In 1956, as I learned when I visited the publishers, The American Book Company.

It is obvious, by the record, without relying on his own admission, that Matusow is a liar. It is not difficult to believe he made his grand reputation as part of a Communist conspiracy because he clearly is without principles. But it is the committee itself accurate in saying "Matusow had been telling the truth in his testimony all along until" he entered the Communist conspiracy and plotted the "Red baiting" of the nation's population. This is an anti-Communist charge, would clear the committee of any charge that it was duped by Matusow when he appeared before it as an "anti-Communist." It also would restore a shred of respectability to the govern-

ment's use of Matusow as an anti-Communist (finger) man. Unfortunately, the subcommittee's demarcation between Matusow, the truthful, and Matusow, the liar, does not tally with its own records.
In 1952, Matusow told the subcommittee he knew by sight probably 10,000 Communists in New York City. However, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, there were only 11,695 party members at that time in the whole state of New York. That is pretty ingenious arithmetic, even for the man who once listed a total of Communists in one department of The New York Times that exceeded by 39 the total number of employees in the department.
If the subcommittee has uncovered a conspiracy to obstruct justice, let it do all it can to jail all of its members, including Matusow, who already faces a three-year sentence imposed by a Texas judge for contempt of court. But the committee can only impugn its own dignity by attempting to show that Matusow, first a Communist and an anti-Communist and then an anti-anti-Communist, was once a truthful, respectable figure in the fight against communism. For he is, above all else, a liar.

From The Dallas Morning News

COUNTRY SAUSAGE

WE DON'T know the origin of country sausage. The kind with a lot of sage and red pepper. The kind that sizzles in a skillet at breakfast, with biscuits in the oven and coffee ready to boil.
The countryman knows sausage for what it is—a satisfyingly sufficient ballast on which a man can last out a long day mending fences or plowing in the field. On a cold morning it's good to walk out in the air, go to the barn and come back to the smell of sausage and ribbon cane syrup in the kitchen. Sausage on a cold morning compares favorably with corn chowder or red-flannel hash, the latter to be served piping hot with cornmeal muffins and green tomato pickles.
Gourmets keep speculating on food of the future—how maybe we'll take a pill on arising and consider it sufficient for the day. We can't imagine a pillular substitute for hot biscuits, butter, country sausage and coffee. We are not anti-pill. We are pro-sausage.
Rich food and late hours are what make a lot of people thick and tired.—WALL STREET JOURNAL

Insurance Assured

Weapon Against Disasters

By CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY

WASHINGTON
RAGING West Coast area flood waters, though washing away most everything else, have built up votes for federal disaster insurance.
Many California, Oregon, and Nevada lawmakers will chime in with East Coast counterparts who have been clamoring for disaster insurance since last August when floods smashed New England.
SPECIAL ATTENTION
Senate Republican Leader William F. Knowland, for one, told Congressional Quarterly: "The California floods, certainly have pointed up the need for some kind of insurance protection; not just against floods but for earthquakes and other disasters." He predicted disaster insurance would get special attention from Congress in 1956 and he might submit a bill for it himself.

Currently, the U. S. spends thousands of dollars in direct grants to states in repairing washed-out areas through such units as the Army Corps of Engineers, and in loans to help rebuild homes and factories. But there is no way for disaster victims, who often owe mortgage money on ruined buildings, to recoup their losses.
FULL HOPPER
There are dozens of bills already drafted or in the works to help those disaster victims. The final measure, probably a compromise thrusting out in House and Senate committees, will have to answer these questions: What disasters should be covered? Should the U. S. write the insurance itself or encourage private companies to do so by agreeing to subsidize them for losses? Should insurance on a house along the Mississippi cost more than for a house atop a mountain? Should war damage be covered? Should the insurance be compulsory?
Four bills giving different answers will be introduced by Sen. John F. Kennedy (R-Mass.), Leverett Saltonstall (R-Mass.), Howard W. Callahan (D-Texas), and Prescott Bush (R-Conn.).

On the other coast, Sen. Herbert H. Lehman (D-N.Y.) said: "I hope we need no further tragedies in any other part of the country to demonstrate the urgent need for prompt and expeditious action on a federal disaster insurance program."
"MST" BILL
For reinforcements, the two-front assault on the disaster insurance problem has President Eisenhower and Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Texas). Mr. Eisenhower Oct. 18 promised New England governors he would submit a disaster insurance plan to Congress in 1956 and Johnson put it on his 1956 legislative "must list."
Statistics, too, constitute powerful ammunition. The United States Weather Bureau explains the West Coast floods to push the



Dixie's Stupidity Is NAACP Alibi

Editors, The News:
I CAN tell you right now that racial segregation here in the South is definitely on the way out. The NAACP has an alibi, in the form of the mental ignorance of the mass of southern whites. How can the NAACP lose, when the average southerner is so abysmally ignorant that he doesn't even know the difference between "segregation" and "integration"? The leaders of the NAACP are quite aware of the average white man and they aren't hesitating one bit to capitalize on that asinine stupidity.



Today's child will not be dictated to about morals or behavior," he said, and said it loftily, too. "The child of today no longer constitutes a captive audience."
The McGuffey student lived in a different moral climate. He would take moral instruction because his home, school and church were all authoritarian.
The modern child won't take dictation and will discover moral values for himself.

Well, if you can't lick 'em, join 'em, in my mind. And if you can't join 'em, better be shouting dog on your own out of a book. So I updated through the three new editions McGuffey's readers for fourth, fifth and sixth grades, and I must say that if I had a grade-school child, I'd be happy to have him exposed to them.

A Mickey Finn Of Morals

By INEZ ROBB

NEW YORK
WHETHER Johnny can read or not, he is about to be extolled in a new series of school-books based on the famous old McGuffey's Readers, from which grandpa and great-grandpa and even grandpa learned to read and do right.
It is especially hoped that the "Golden Rule Series, the Modern McGuffey's Readers," will teach Johnny to read and do right, too, but this is a ticklish proposition. In 1956, as I learned when I visited the publishers, The American Book Company.
HEP MOPPET
Grandpa, the last pre-Freudian schoolbook, could take his reading and his moral precepts, in which McGuffey specialized, straight. But for Johnny, a hero, the modern precept must be slipped like a fast ball over home plate, hoping he will catch it. Ob, the stories in the new readers will be jam-packed with high-morality, all right. But the moral will not be tacked on to the end of the story for all to read—who can—as in the old McGuffey's.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
TWO significant backstage Senate fudges took place the weekend of Jan. 1, 1955, and the weekend of Jan. 1, 1956, with far-reaching effects on the Democratic Party. The fudges on Jan. 1, 1955, brought unity to the Democrats. The fudges on Jan. 1, 1956, may split the Democratic Party wide open.

Side Track

At Huddle No. 2, which actually is a series of continuing huddles held as senators returned to Washington after Christmas, the same Sen. Douglas had different ideas.
Till Case
In the first place, a boy from his city, Eugene Till, had been murdered in Mississippi, and Chicago's huge Negro population was being seething.
Second, Lyndon Johnson of Texas, who succeeded poured oil on Democratic dissent one year ago, this year is pushing one of the most turbulent bills in the Senate. It is determined to reverse the Harris-Fulbright bill to reverse the Supreme Court on the regulation of natural gas through the Senate immediately.
Higher Priced Gas
This is a bill which puts every northern Democrat on the spot. Big cities like Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, St. Louis which depend on southern gas for cooking-heating, have not to battle this bill and battle it hard. Not only will it hike the price of gas to northern consumers but it upsets the principle that the Supreme Court has a right to in the law.
It will, therefore, split the Democratic Party wide open. It will cause almost as much friction as an anti-lynching bill or a Fair Employment Practices Bill.

Rich food and late hours are what make a lot of people thick and tired.—WALL STREET JOURNAL

People's Platform

Dixie's Stupidity Is NAACP Alibi
Whiteville

Editors, The News:
I CAN tell you right now that racial segregation here in the South is definitely on the way out. The NAACP has an alibi, in the form of the mental ignorance of the mass of southern whites. How can the NAACP lose, when the average southerner is so abysmally ignorant that he doesn't even know the difference between "segregation" and "integration"? The leaders of the NAACP are quite aware of the average white man and they aren't hesitating one bit to capitalize on that asinine stupidity.

One of the more outstanding characteristics of the average white southerner is his eccentric tendency to pontificate on narrow points of his own mangle. Where wise and brilliant scholars observe in awe and humility, Mr. Average Citizen, ass, stands up in his colossal arrogance and proclaims to the world that all his mean, small, petulant prejudices have Divine sanction. Stiff-necked and falsely proud, he boldly asserts that he knows all about God's ways and the Universe. What gall! What monstrous blasphemy!
PIE IN THE SKY
The main trouble with the average Anglo-Saxon southerner today is that he has never had an opportunity to know what real religion is. To him God is a fantastic combination of Santa Claus, Davy Crockett and Jefferson Davis. His eschatology is extremely crude and primitive and can be summed up simply as "lie in dirt sky in the sweet-by-and-by." Totally ignorant of the real meaning of Holy Writ, he falls easy prey to every variety of charlatanism.
What the South needs today is a great religious revival. By religious revival, I don't mean a gigantic carnival tent campaign. I mean a real spiritual awakening of the Anglo-Saxon race. The ignorant masses here in the South aren't ready to listen to the voice of a true prophet. Putting their faith in pharisaical and ungodly political rogues, they feel they have nothing to fear. Drunk with vanity and conceit, they have done absolutely nothing to improve themselves, while all the time the crucifer test of patience than a waiting that is put into a life of

The Supreme Court 'Should Be Jailed'

Hamilton
Editors, The News:
ABOUT YOUR editorial, "The Governor and the Patriots," if you think Gov. Hodges' remarks about desegregation are ambiguous, don't jump to the conclusion that his intentions or those of the Patriots are all likewise ambiguous.
Neither the words nor the intentions of Sen. Thurmond are ambiguous, do you think? And, regardless of words, the sure intent of both Gov. Hodges and Sen. Thurmond are so clear cut and well defined that I think that you and the NAACP know exactly what it is without dwelling on anyone's ambiguity.
NAACP INTENTIONS
What Gov. Hodges and Sen. Thurmond intend doing as a last resort may perhaps end in "ignorance, poverty and bitterness" or, if you are concerned, had you stopped to contemplate what would be the result in the South if the intentions of the NAACP and their fellow travelers were carried out?
The first settlers of this country were not noted for either their worldly goods or their education, but they held the seed of potentialities of the Anglo-Saxon race, and you suppose you can know the history of that race.
Those colonists had something

The Cruel Test

SHORT-TERM WAITING

By THOMAS MANN
PURE WAITING is torture; no one could be said to sit seven years, or seven days, or walk up and down and wait, as one can do for perhaps an hour. In the large and larger time units that fall down and wait, because the waiting gets longer and thinner, and at the same time more densely occupied with more living, so that for long stretches of time it falls victim to sheer forgetfulness; that is to say, it withdraws into depths of the soul and is no longer consciously present. This a half hour of pure and mere waiting is more frightful and a crueler test of patience than a waiting that is put into a life of seven years.
What we await close at hand affects us, precisely because of its nearness, as a much keener and more immediate stimulus than if it were far off; it transforms our patience into nerve-and-muscle-consuming impatience, for the longer we wait, the more we do not know what to do with our limbs; while a long-term waiting leaves us in peace; it not only permits but forces us to think of other things, for we must live. Such is the origin of the surprising truth that no matter with what degree of longing we wait, we do it not with more difficulty, but with more ease, the more distant in time lies the goal of our hopes.

Demo Dilemma: Gas And Civil Rights

The natural gas bill was all set to pass late last summer when Lyndon Johnson suffered his heart attack. In his absence, neither Democrats nor Republicans so acting leader Clements of Kentucky wisely sidetracked the gas bill.
Today, therefore, Lyndon wants to pass it in the first ten days of Congress before a filibuster could be effective. This is where Sen. Douglas comes in. He's holding a trump card which Lyndon Johnson obviously doesn't want him to play. But Douglas, who enlisted in the Marine Corps as a private at the age of 16 and was wounded at two Jims, is likely to play it.
The Ace
This ace is a sort of anti-lynching amendment to the natural gas bill which makes it a federal offense to attack anyone on the basis of race, creed or color.
This would have removed the Till case from a Mississippi grand jury and placed it before the Justice Department in Washington. It would also cover any race riot, kidnapping or rape case.

Suave Talk

Whether Douglas takes this onto the natural gas bill will depend largely on how the Senate and House Judiciary Committee assumed that Johnson, who always bows reverently toward the Texas oil and gas fields, will not sidetrack the gas bill, but

that half-breeds do not have, have never had, nor never will have, a more triumphant DEBASED HERITAGE

Now, four hundred years later, the Supreme Court would deliberately attempt to defile the purity of the white race and condemn their posterity to a debased heritage.

What act could be more un-Christian, unethical, immoral and low-down? What I mean is crime.
Impeachment of the nine judges that proscribed the functions of the highest tribunal in the land for political considerations is too mild an action. They should be jailed for the attempt to corrupt society.
"Ignorance, poverty and bitterness" can be corrected but pollution of the racial genes is irreducible and an offense against God and man.
—D. W. HORNEY

Better Schools Group Appreciates Publicity

NEW YORK
Editors, The News:
We're grateful for the prominent place they were given on pages 2 and 14A of your newspaper. I'm sure they could not have been missed by your many North Carolina readers.
—WILLIAM CURTISS
Public Relations Assistant for the Public Schools

Short-Term Waiting

By THOMAS MANN
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