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Reapportionment: Let's Wet The Line

THE worst report possible from the Commission on Legislative Reapportionment would have been a plea for further study.

"Further study" is the sure-fire soporific for the General Assembly's mind.

The best report possible would have been reassertion of an obvious and fundamental truth—the Assembly should obey the Constitution, redistrict, state and local seats on the basis of the 1950 census.

That Mecklenburg and Guilford each deserve an additional Senate seat is only part of the larger truth of obedience to law and the democratic principle of proportional representation.

This is the report the commission has turned in. Its members are to be commended for not cooperating with the big stall on reapportionment that led the Assembly to create the commission in the first place.

That is that reapportionment is too

tender a matter for the tough push and haul of politics in a rural-dominated, but increasingly urban state. Certainly that population shifts carry with them corresponding shifts in political power can be had only by making reapportionment the responsibility of a body that can be compelled to obey the law.

Mecklenburg and other urban areas will have reservations on the commission's proposal to limit all counties to two senators. Two Senate votes in the future might be as disproportionate as the one Mecklenburg vote is now.

But if that is bait the rural chiefs will bite, by all means let us wet the line. The first question for urban interest is in Raleigh not what is rightfully theirs, but what they can get.

They will be fortunate to get the required 1950 redistricting in 1957. They will be wondrously blessed if the Assembly yields the reapportionment power to a body that will exercise it.

Pious Pique Endangers Western Cause

SELF-DEFEATING stubbornness on the part of the administration is endangering the unity of the world at a time when Soviet influence is frighteningly high throughout the Near East.

Whether it likes the turn of events at Suez or not, the fat is irrevocably in the fire. Western Europe's oil supplies have been sharply curtailed. Half a continent has already been crippled. It is the clear and unmistakable duty of this nation to do everything in its power to relieve these desperate shortages at once.

In the simplest of terms, Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) has defined the problem for all Americans: "For us to continue to punish our allies can only lead to grave trouble. I think we should provide oil for Western Europe and let everybody know it."

It will require the immediate mobilization of all available petroleum production and transportation resources. It will also require the establishment of financial arrangements which Europe, already short of dollars, can meet.

The United States cannot allow momentary pique to blind it to the necessity of taking swift and effective action. This nation's relations with Britain and France have been inflamed to a degree that few Americans seem to realize. By punishing our friends further, the United States is, in effect, punishing itself.

The destinies of all of the Western nations are necessarily linked. Without oil, military and economic defenses against the westward spread of Soviet influence are flimsy in the extreme. While we hem and haw, they are getting flimsier.

A Handy Hanky For Educational Tears

GREENSBORO — The combined efforts of all colleges in North Carolina turned out just one qualified high school physics teacher last year and during the current school year they will turn out none.

Carolina to bring 50 high school science and mathematics teachers to Chapel Hill for a year of special study.

Undoubtedly, the program will help to produce more and better trained science and mathematics teachers. There is a shortage of these teachers today—a shortage that must, somehow, be met.

The importance to U. S. security of trained personnel and technological security has long been recognized. But it is important to North Carolina's new industrialization, too. The NSF grants serve a worthy double purpose.

The Winners Will Be The Walkers

THE significance of the 20th annual Shrine Bowl game at Memorial Stadium tomorrow will not be measured in gridiron glory for a potential All-American or the athletic reputation of a state. It will be measured in health and happiness for scores of weak and crippled youngsters who can neither run, pass nor punt.

or — have been instrumental in bringing strength to many withered limbs. As it effects the future of so many children, tomorrow's game will be a thriller—whatever the quality of the football.

In two decades, the Shrine game has actually grown in importance and inspirational value. Its benefits have extended far beyond the many dollars raised in behalf of crippled children. It is an annual lesson in the perfection of society's essential goodness and the ingenious manner in which it can accomplish good works. In this wonderful project, the strong will indeed run so that the weak may walk.

CHRISTMAS is truly the season of merchandising eloquence. Already the advertising copy writers are devising toyland's wonders with marvelous imagery and extravagant aplomb.

But a word-weaver for one of our favorite Charlotte stores startled us the other day with a description of a lovely and lifelike doll. "You lay her down and she closes her eyes, just like a real little girl."

From The Baltimore Sun

THE CIVIL WAR CULT

TIME was not so long ago when Civil War enthusiasts in this community could be counted on the fingers. They looked to be as close to extinction as the whooping cranes.

to \$37.50 a set, according to condition and date of issue. Meanwhile, a new edition has been published with the use of old plates. And, as though that were not enough to satisfy the rapacity of the cultists, an abridged copy in one volume has just come off the presses.

Then a new generation sprang up which discovered the war for itself and has since pursued the subject with all the fervor of First Century Christians. The demand for literature on the subject has grown with the cult and reached such proportions that editors of book pages have been at a loss to find space to review new works on aspects of the war.

Members of the older generation of enthusiasts, who suffered the opprobrium of their lot when the Civil War was labor, now smile. They can afford to when they reflect that they got their sets of BATTLES AND LEADERS from a third to a quarter of what the same sets bring today.

There has been an increasing demand, too, for old books on the war. A case in point is that classic, Battles And Leaders. By a stroke of genius the editors of the CENTURY magazine in the 1880s suddenly realized the importance of getting the accounts of battles from the leaders on both sides who fought them while the leaders were still alive.

From behind the Iron Curtain comes the story of Russia's ex-boss Malenkov and his attempt to discover what the people really thought of him. Disguised, Malenkov went into a cafe and began talking to a worker. A few drinks later he casually asked the worker how he really felt about Malenkov. The worker looked carefully around, then backed his new friend into the washroom. There he checked to make sure no one was listening, then he whispered softly into Malenkov's ear: "I'm in favor of him."

Dulles Wouldn't Believe Private Warnings Of Invasion

By MARQUIS CHILDS

IN THE aftermath of the PARIS French-British go-it-alone attack on Egypt, there are some hurt feelings which complicate essentially the act of rejoining the Atlantic Alliance.



JOHN FOSTER DULLES A Coolness Overseas

Both publicly and privately, the French have done little in the way of apology or explanation for the action which they considered imperative if the Western position was not to be wiped out by Communist-Arab encroachment. Unlike the British, the French government has no sense of guilt on the score of collusion in preparation for the invasion which began with the entry of Israeli troops into the Sinai Peninsula.

Both in European capitals and in Washington it was believed that the use of force would shatter the Republican claim to peace and have an adverse effect on President Eisenhower's chances for reelection. As it turned out, the attack had the opposite effect and the President's majority is believed to have been increased when it seemed that full-scale war might be imminent.

CLEARs THE AIR

Washington has been furnished the details of this collusion, which included extensive military cooperation and assistance. This "confession" — although that is not the light in which the French regard it at all — has helped to clear the air here.

UNBELIEVING DULLES

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles apparently preferred to believe that America's allies, and particularly Britain, would never launch such an attack in the midst of a presidential election.

The fact is that there should

what led up to the invasion, it appears that Israel moved up the date which had been previously agreed to. If Israel had not done this, the attack would have come after the election.

But it is true in every quarter, whether right or left. Dulles has let it be known that he intends to come here on Dec. 11 for the meeting of the NATO Council. This is a tribute to his extraordinary power of will, inasmuch as it will be scarcely six weeks since he underwent a major operation for cancer.

The deterioration has gone far, both in military power and in the strength which comes out of confidence unity. It cannot be halted by a single speech, no matter how promising the proposals contained in that speech.

OPPOSITE EFFECT

In the task of repair and rehabilitation which must sooner or later begin, the most complicating personal factor is Secretary Dulles. To put it as frankly as possible, the distrust that is felt for him throughout Western Europe can hardly be exaggerated.

According to reports here, Dulles will bring with him a proposal for reorganizing the NATO Council and giving it much broader powers to coordinate the policies of the 15 powers as they relate to each other. For one thing, Dulles will urge that representatives of the NATO countries on the council be given the status of cabinet membership in their respective governments.

WEAK WORDS

The painful events of the past month should have impressed on all concerned that words — pronouncements such as "massive retaliation" — are no substitute for the kind of constructive, resolute policy that gave NATO its start.

At the same meeting in December, a committee of three NATO members — Lester Pearson of Canada, Gaetano Martino of Italy, and Helvard Lange of Norway — will give their conclusion on what must be done to end the

'Freezing To Death Isn't So Good Either'



U. S. Tax Law Should Allow Dog Dependency Deduction

By ROBERT C. RUARK

YOUR Honor, sir, I wish to plead innocent of falsification of tax returns on my children—Schrook, 8, Miss Mam'selle, 7, Satchio, five months, and Mrs. Gwendolyn Wentworth-Brewster, also five months.

My dependents may violate the divans, but they don't violate local laws. They all got licenses, rabies shots, anti-distemper. And when I think of what kind of business they throw at the local furniture stores, dry cleaners, et al. I would say that they are of infinitely more benefit to the community than children.

I didn't know I done wrong when I listed all these dogs as dependents. I thought all along that anything that got sick on the leg, needed constant medical attention, nursemaids, trips to the barber, and such as that, was just naturally a dependent.

Why Can't Judge, say, if children wore out shoe leather like my dogs consume it orally, every collar in creation would have a Cadbury's dog's name kept in the local drugstore in liver pills and vitamins.

I see by the papers that a theater porter who listed his dog as a dependent narrowly missed going to jail for what the government considers fraud. The poor fellow is on a three-year probation, and the former dependent, named Duchess (alias Doris), can't hold up her head in the park because her old man is little better than a criminal.

I don't like to talk out of school, but I must say one time when she was feeling poorly: "Why don't you get yourself a mistress? That's the dogs' name kept in the local drugstore in liver pills and vitamins."

Now you take Miss Mam'selle, a Frenchy, indescribable who weighs a hundred pounds and seems compounded equally of musk-ox and bear. She sprouts ears like a Merino sheep and has to go to the hairdresser oftener than her mistress.

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This whole thing is predicated on listing a household dependent any individual with whom he has a relationship that violates a "local law."

Take the big dog, Schnorkel, the boxer. He got mixed up with a day in his life. One lapse and boom! Nine extra dependents.

Fortunately we found homes for seven, but the two villains remained, and baby boys are the only completely obnoxious critters in the world. They eat shoes, sweaters, divans, rugs, each other, me, friends, business acquaintances, upholstery, soap, photographs, and the father. They need beds, blankets, food service, doctors, nurses, transport, education, and slaves.

These ain't dependents? I do not call attention to their illegitimate estate, either, or the fact that I have saved them from being wined and dined.

In summing up, Your Honor, if they are going to put mistresses off limits as dependents, please don't you substitute dogs?

It could be that the governor has just failed to consider this matter in the light of its true significance and importance to an efficient and fair administration of justice in Mecklenburg County. This is not a small matter and should not be dealt with as such.

Creation And Extinction

I never really had, lived among treetops as children dream of living, with an elegant small monkey as companion and bright green crickets for his eat. It was the time of her most perfect purity and innocence with everything coming to her through her feelings, including her awareness of God. He was the rustle of lizards in her thatched roof, the scent of mimosa through

the window screens, and the slap of banana leaves when the wind blew. He gave her signs of Himself early in the grace days, when darkness fell. He gave her the sonorous symphony of His African night in great roars and rumbles of creation and extinction which made each Old Testament prophecy come true.—From 'The Nubia's Story.' By Kathryn Hulme.

People's Platform

Hodges Should Return Favor

Charlotte Editors, The News: It is most regrettable and disconcerting that the governor of North Carolina apparently does not see fit to name a Mecklenburg County man to the post of solicitor for the Tenth Judicial District to finish the unexpired term of Gaston County's Mr. Whitener.

consideration, tax-wise, political appointments and such, from those to whom it gives its wholehearted and native political support.

Should we hear Ruggiero Lombarducci's "Paggiacci," my cup will be filled. The 18-minute scene from "Tosca" with Maria Callas and George London on last week's program, was excellently done.

Some Hearty Bravos For Television Opera

Rock Hill, S. C. Editors, The News: Ed Sullivan may have taken a quite a panning from his TV listeners. Those tuned in on last Sunday's show heard Sullivan remark that he hoped those who complained about wiggle-legged Elvis may perhaps be happy with the "Tosca" performance and the promise of five additional operas on future programs.

Local Litterbugs A Public Nuisance

Charlotte Editors, The News: TO THE HOME owners of Charlotte: Here is something you should write your City Council on and help it in plain words. You may have failed to take notice that there are too many people in Charlotte who litter the sidewalks and streets with their refuse — beer cans, rum bottles and the papers from their sandwiches.

Why do they do this? They cannot drink the liquor where they buy it. They who should be busting the bottles in the streets and on the sidewalks? This is a civic duty. The State Highway Dept. warns you when you are caught littering the highways of North Carolina, you will be fined \$5. When should they be free in Charlotte?

The Madison Avenue boys are most always sharply tuned to public reaction. Five operas on soap operas, but Metropolitan Opera, is quite a deal. Wonder what prompted Ed to buy this expensive package. Mr. Rudolph Bing's talented and most welcome singers are not cheap. What prompted Ed to buy this expensive package? Mr. Rudolph Bing's talented and most welcome singers are not cheap. What prompted Ed to buy this expensive package? Mr. Rudolph Bing's talented and most welcome singers are not cheap.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON TWO recent naval weddings prove that it pays to be a high-ranking officer. It may mean the difference between whether you get married or don't.

Government Plane Used For Wedding

What makes Capt. Craven's "training flight" interesting is his official mission, namely to patrol the Early Warning Line in the north Atlantic Ocean which is America's first line of defense against a Russian sneak attack.

place while he was in Nebraska, Capt. Craven reluctantly concurred. "Yes, I believe there was," he replied. He also answered "yes" when asked whether the wedding had been his own.

Like Capt. Craven, enlisted man Bellmore was stationed in Maryland. But unlike Capt. Craven, Bellmore was suddenly shipped off to Newfoundland a few days before his wedding date. Unlike Capt. Craven, Bellmore had no airplane, also lacked the authority to issue flight orders for himself, and, all Bellmore could do was telegraph his fiancée, Myrtle Boyce of Malden, and ask her to contact the Red Cross.

Training Flight

Wedding No. 1 had as bridegroom Capt. Conrad W. Craven, commanding officer of the airborne Early Warning Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Two weeks ago, the world was in crisis and the White House was worried about Russian maneuvers in the Near East and elsewhere. On the morning of Nov. 17, however, Capt. Craven flew to Lincoln, Neb., on a "training flight"—just in time to attend his own wedding.

The Cost

Capt. Craven, however, seemed to consider his own wedding more important than the world crisis, for he took his Navy Constellation off the nation's defense in Nebraska. This, of course, was done at considerable cost to taxpayers.

No Publicity

"There was a considerable number of training flights that day. One flight stopped by there for a while," said the captain. "Why are you asking these questions? I haven't denied this thing at all."

Solons Protest

The Red Cross was sympathetic and asked the Navy to let Bellmore come home for himself. In desperation the national emergency, during which Miss Boyce contacted Congressman John McCormack and Torbert H. Macdonald, both Massachusetts Democrats. The two representatives protested to the Navy, and in the nick of time Bellmore was sent home for his marriage to Miss Boyce.

Ushers Also Went

With him went a planeload of fellow officers on an important mission. They were to serve as ushers. They stayed in Lincoln till Sunday, Nov. 18, then flew back to the home base at Patuxent Naval Air Station, Md.

'Strictly Training'

"It was strictly a training flight," insisted the captain when asked whether he had flown a Navy plane to Lincoln on Nov. 17.

Second Wedding

Wedding No. 2 was scheduled to take place one day earlier in Malden, Mass., on Nov. 17. But the bride-to-be was the most left waiting at Sacred Heart church. In this case the bridegroom wasn't a Navy brass hat, but a Navy enlisted man—Aviation Technician Third Class Alfred Bellmore of Malden, Mass.

Asked whether a wedding had taken

It would have been much easier, of course, had Bellmore been a brass hat instead of an enlisted man. Capt. Craven can testify to that.