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It Was A Prize Package—But Empty

WITH varying degrees of exasperation and bitterness, southern lawmakers have pounded away at the United States Supreme Court's desegregation decision for 22 months. The core of their displeasure has a time-tested hardness. The depth of their feelings has never been in doubt. The manifesto on the subject issued Sunday by 19 senators and 77 representatives offered nothing new or startling to the public. It was merely a cataloging of well-worn, well-known principles. The document was nevertheless significant. It avoided the angry bluster and defiant bluntness of some Dixie political leaders. It was careful to emphasize that only "lawful means" should be taken to meet the court's challenge. It appealed to the people of the South to avoid violence. It contained no nonsense about "interposition" or "nullification."

'We Just Don't Let It Happen'

MUNICIPAL planning circles the story is told of a distinguished visitor from Sweden who recently made a tour of U.S. cities. As he was about to leave an American city engineer asked him what his own country did about slums. "What do we do about slums?" the visitor repeated, arching his eyebrows. "Why, it's simple. We just don't let them happen." It is too bad that Charlotte did not have the hard-headed good sense to invoke such a simple system years ago. But something can be done—and is being done—to prevent runaway infections urban blight in the future. For what is being done, the Charlotte Board of Realtors deserves much of the credit. Yesterday as part of an observance of Realtor Week, the board renewed its support of the city's housing law enforcement program. Later in the day, a municipal government specialist significantly labeled Charlotte's building inspection and slum rehabilitation agencies "probably the most outstanding in the United States." The comment came from Howard Evans, director of the Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency's urban renewal service branch at yesterday's urban development conference. The real estate board's part in fighting urban blight is worthy of note. The tremendous human and material waste inherent in blight cannot be stopped by government alone—nor can it be stopped by private enterprise alone. It requires the teamwork of government and business. This teamwork is dependent for its success upon many factors—the dynamic of moral wrath, an aroused public opinion, good citizenship, personal pride of home and neighborhood and an enlightened self-interest. All of which is a worthy way of expressing the visiting Swede's simple approach to urban blight. "We just don't let it happen."

No Poke Bonnet For Maggie Truman

CONVINCED that Tar Heels make fine husbands, we are prepared to proclaim publicly that Margaret Truman's wait was worth it. Loyalty to the journalistic craft figures in our endorsement too for the husband-to-be, North Carolina's Clifton Daniel Jr., is assistant to the foreign news editor of the New York Times. In fact, the only blemish in the whole business was a radium's reference to Miss Truman as "a determined spinster." The nerve of him! In the popular sense, that's like labeling the child "a hopeless old maid." Miss Truman is only 32—and a right beauty 32 at that. She was quoted by Mr. Daniel's own New York Times reporter: "I certainly do not intend to be a spinster." Anyway, determined or not, spinsterhood is nothing more than a state of mind. Some girls, confirmed misogynists, are old maids at 18. Others resist the label until they are too old to care. Chronological age has little to do with it. You are not a "determined spinster" until you are ready to throw up your hands in final despair, take up poke bonnets and retire to the rocking chair. After all, the Bureau of the Census indicates that all is not even lost at 50. Some 61 per cent of American women who are single at that age finally get around to matrimony before they're through. The odds against marriage don't lengthen to 100-1 until they reach 65 with no mate in sight. We were never worried about Miss Truman. Besides, it's Leap Year.

Southern Food: Another Waterloo

BAR-B-Q was Waterloo in the good fight against barbarization of food and language. Everybody saw it coming on the signs along the road. Pedants sneered. Editors threatened. Schools cautioned. But Bar-B-Q triumphed in the "EATS" emporiums, offensive in name as in substance. The signs kept going up and so did the roadside stands wherein proprietors built grills, loused it with ketchup, and dispensed it in greasy plates to hungry motorists wanting to taste a bit of the Old South. What it came to, finally, was massive indignation, a suspicion by Yankee tourists that southerners were trying to poison them, and publication of defensive essays explaining the virtues of genuine southern barbecue. The damage was irreparable. Barbecue has been forever tainted with suspicion by the very shorter-cult. But most the same thing happens to other delectable food. In name, we mean. It doesn't change the substance of a watermelon to call it a "watermelon," we suppose, or the taste of a tomato labeled "tomato." But such atrocities make people suspicious. Who wants to buy a "tomato" after gazing up the road on Bar-B-Q? The same question applies to "peaches," "apples," "korn," "graps," "kipperions," etc. We know not how others may feel, but we'd rather go hungry than eat "fried chicken."

From The Columbia State

PRISSEY PRECISION

MUCH merit has been made of the English language as "she is wirt" or as "she is wirt." The unceasing efforts of those not enlightened on the subject to fathom its mysteries are often risible. And yet, when one comes right down to it, there are few whose diction consistently concurred with the revisions as given by Messrs. Webster and Worcester. There was a time when one was giving precedence on spelling and the other on pronunciation. In more recent years the lexicographers of the former seems to have just about relegated the latter to the shade. Looking around almost anywhere one is likely to see the word "rail" in large letters. It is found not only in theaters and auditoriums, these days, but in parking lots, shopping centers, around buildings, terminals and so on. What does it spell? According to the manner in which it is almost invariably pronounced in these parts, it spells "egg." By the same token, exaggeration seems to spell "aggrah-shun." One reason given for poor spelling in

certain parts of the country, in addition to the new orthographic system, is the fact that almost all vowels are pronounced alike—"uh." Thus we don't hear "elimination" but "uhluhnshashun." The sound of a, e, i, o and u are about rolled into one unrecognizable mutter. There are two sides to every question, however. We should not like to hear our people talk in clipped, prissyly precise enunciations after the manner of a New England teacher, or professor of rhetoric. Overright we should love one of our choicest traditions, one that no one could copy from us, no matter how much they might envy it—that soft-southern accent. Ever notice that where there's a will, there's a way a relative? —CARLEAD CURBENT ANGRUS. Flattery is something nice someone tells you about yourself—something you wish were true.—ELBERTS (G.A.) STRA. A dude ranch is a place where it is too painful to file a horse after you've learned how.—GREENVILLE (S. C.) PRESS.

Arab-Israeli Dispute Is Developing Into Another 'Korea'

By MARQUIS CHILDS

AMERICAN policy, or lack of it, in the Middle East is rapidly approaching a stage of crisis. It is to be expected that the Arab-Israeli dispute will be re-examined with the hope that a new and positive line can be taken. The situation developing today bears some resemblance to events leading to the sudden refusal for the United States to accept responsibility for Greece and Turkey, which formerly had been part of Great Britain's task of order-keeping. The British continued the Truman administration with the fact that dwindling British resources made it no longer possible to carry the burden in the area and President Truman responded with the Truman Doctrine, putting American strength against Communist aggression. BRITISH PRESSURE. While this stage has not been reached in the Arab countries, London is bringing increasing pressure on Washington to get this country into the United Nations as an active partner and not merely as a helpful friend of the subduer. An appeal to that effect came from London recently. Officials here replied with the same answer that has been given before—that in the Washington view the objectives of the West will not be served if the United States continues to be a friendly observer ready to give assistance when needed. But there is another parallel with recent history that is even more disturbing. The lack of a



ARAB LEADERS TURN ON WESTERN IMPERIALISTS' Saudi Arabia's Saud, Syria's Kuwaty, Egypt's Nasser

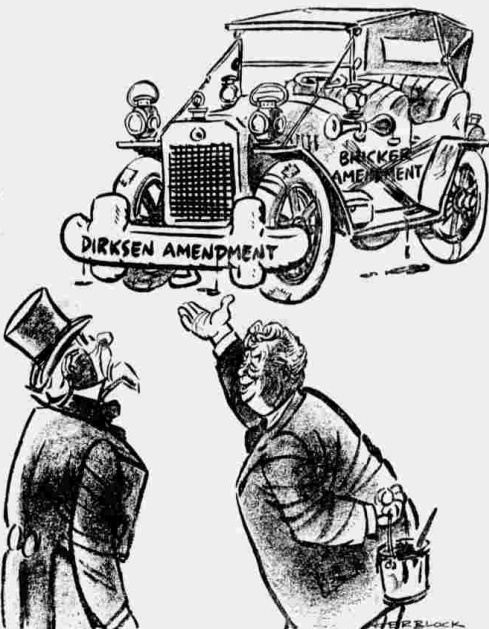
clear-cut policy on South Korea contributed to the crisis which the North Korean Communists attacked in force. Within a few days, the United States was carrying most of the load of a war that eventually cost 252 American dead and 102,241 wounded. The West—Britain, France and the United States—has reaffirmed the 1914-1915 Declaration of 1920, guaranteeing the borders of Egypt and Israel. This was one consequence of the Eden-Eisenhower talks last month. But what this could mean is only just beginning to be realized. Short of any constructive steps, either to bolster the capacity of Israel to resist or to try to bring

the two sides into some standstill agreement, it may well mean Western forces, including American troops, eventually will undertake to hold the desert borders between Israel and the Arab states. In short, it could mean a little Korea that could become a full-size Korea. Both President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles have talked earnestly about the urgent need for United Nations action. When he saw Dulles just before the secretary took off for Southeast Asia, Israel's Ambassador Eban Eban asked how the United Nations could function in the event of ag-

gression in view of the veto power that Soviet Russia has promised the Arab states she would use. Dulles replied that the veto would not deter the West from acting if the veto in the Security Council were to be exercised. He said that, with the overwhelming support of the members of the council, the West was compelled to act. The answer would be considered in Dulles' words, as a "meek olive" which would not be considered in the way of the kind of action to which the U.S. was pledged. This gave Eban small com-

'It's A Brand New Job. The Paint Is Hardly Dry On It' As Family Farms Vanished So Did The Roman Empire

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP



People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the editors. The News reserves the right to condense. 'Hurrh, Hurrh, the Old North State, Forever' with the native patriotism of any North Carolinian. But it risks no one to have to put up with the narrow-minded folks of my own race. It seems to me that when he has reason to be ashamed of his own race, there is, indeed, something amiss! Personally, I am a little weary of the hickering, both pro and con, concerning the subject of segregation. The courts have handed down the decision and it is time to be followed. Being a student, I am constantly disagreed with and even frequently called ugly names along my views regarding the subject. Although I am aware that closed minds, regarding the subject, are predominant here in the South, I hope that some day both races will be able to live in harmony. I feel one will do my part. —PATTY HILL Educational Group Expresses Thanks The people who are not prosperous are the folk of the family-sized farms. They are so prosperous in fact that this nation is virtually being to be divided into two nations. A single statistic tells the story. Per capita farm income has now declined to the level of 1910 a year, whereas the per capita income of Americans off the farm now stands at a level of \$1,922. Farm folk are much less than half as well off as other folk in America. If this condition persists for very long, it can produce only one result. All the ambitious, able

and bodied members of farm families will do what the Roman farmers did. They will give up the life they have been trained to. They will go better opportunities elsewhere. DARK OMFENS There are plenty of signs all over the land that a beginning to happen. More and more very large farms are appearing in every agricultural section of this country. The number of family-sized farms is everywhere declining, and in some states it is declining with alarming rapidity. The total number of farms in Iowa, for instance, is estimated to have dropped by more than 10 per cent between 1950 and 1954. In Iowa, moreover, they call their boys "the mortgage-litters." But with a few dozen farms and over \$20 a hundredweight to a current price of \$15.50 a hundredweight, a farmer needs hundreds of bushels of grain to make \$4,500 only a year or so ago, will now get only \$2,500. No wonder, therefore, of an accelerated drain from the farms come from Iowa, as from most other farm states. Meanwhile, some of the farm doctors seem to be prescribing for the real disease. Secretary Benson is obviously right in arguing that the kind of cure that will make the disease itself more dangerous in the end. He has been outrageous in fighting his prescription, and the Democrats, who prescribed rigid parities, have not fought for them with real faith. SOCIAL VALUE On the other hand, when Under Secretary of Agriculture Truman D. Moss says, as he has said, that small farms will have to go to the wall, he is making large farms more economically viable, he makes Secretary Benson's prescription of attachment to family-sized farms sound pretty hollow. This, clearly, is the basic thing that arouses the farmers against Benson. In the end, no doubt, the real point will have to be recognized, that family-sized farms have a very great social value, which makes a national investment to sustain independent farming a very important thing for the long term. When that time comes, a distinction will somehow have to be made between the big operators who have no claim to national support, and the family-sized farmers who still constitute this nation's roots in the American soil, over-urbanized as we unfortunately are. Quote, Unquote Usually, every era in history that has produced a great crisis produced also a great man to meet the crisis. And so when historical need seemed overdue, Nature produced them — New Orleans States.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round Eight Congressmen To Be Indicted

WASHINGTON ATTORNEY General Brownell is launching some hard-knock crack-down on congressional all-around far Democrats. In the next two months he plans to indict approximately eight congressmen, possibly more, for income tax evasion. Two From Dixie The first of these cases came to a head before a grand jury in Boston last week. Democratic Congressman Thomas Lane of Massachusetts was indicted. Others on Brownell's list include two from the South, one from California, two from Pennsylvania. Target: Green One congressman whom Brownell has had the ax out to get is William Green of Philadelphia, boss of the Democratic

machine in a city which has been Republican-controlled almost ever since the Civil War, but which has been Democratic for the past five years. Green, who is the Philadelphia Democratic chairman, has had his taxes gone over with a fine-tooth comb, during which the tax agents found he had failed to check up \$12,000 from the sale of a lot. Honest Oversight? Green stated in this column that it was an honest oversight, made by his book-keeper. Whether Brownell's boys will view it that way is something else again. Significantly, Brownell also cracked down on one of the junior Democratic leaders in West Virginia, Homer J. Hanna, with an income tax indictment last week — just as West Virginia Democrats were

trying to pick a successor to Sen. Harley Kilgore. Hanna has picked a lot of senators in the past. Democratic income tax administrators were more lenient—too lenient. When the attention of Commissioner Joe Numan was called to the fact that Sen. Joe McCarthy was found to be \$3,000 off by Wisconsin income tax officials, Numan observed: "Oh, he won't bother a senator who was only \$3,000 off." Numan himself, later ended in jail, McCarthy was given a clean bill by Republican Tax Commissioner T. Coleman Andrews. Washington Pipeline Faxon Millard Tydings of Maryland, more defeated with Sen. McCarthy's help, is set for a Senate comeback. He shouldn't have much trouble making it. The FBI has picked up reports that both