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End This 'Marriage Of Convenience'

I believe the people of North Carolina want a modern, efficient penal system which will make every reasonable effort to treat prisoners fairly and rehabilitate them for a useful life back in society through useful employment, vocational training...

These statements, made three days apart, outline both the challenge and the opportunity before North Carolina today.

Completely satisfactory prison reforms will never be possible in North Carolina until separation is accomplished.

This "marriage of convenience" is no longer convenient or even ordinarily respectable. Hamstringing the prisons with the highway commission's political controls is a product of antediluvian backwardness. No other state tolerates such a system.

Even with additional administrative autonomy given the Prison Department by the General Assembly last year, Prison Director William F. Bailey has remained under the highway commission's fiscal thumb. But the trouble goes

deeper. The mass use of prison labor is inefficient and costly and has limited value in rehabilitating inmates for useful lives in a free society. This, then, is the heart of the matter.

The chief problem, then, lies in finding other useful work for the prisoners to do. This should be the principal task of state authorities now studying the "feasibility" of separation.

It is not a question of whether separation is feasible. Of course it is feasible. Other states have separated prisoners from highway boards with fine results. Several are doing outstanding jobs. Certain phases of Wisconsin's system have already received the governor's admiring attention in recent public statements.

Gov. Hodges has, in fact, given every indication that he believes in a creative and imaginative approach to the problems of prisons and prisoner rehabilitation.

New penal concepts are badly needed in North Carolina. A bold, new program—geared to the needs of the prisoners, of society and of the taxpayers—should be drawn before the next regular session of the General Assembly. The first step should be dissolution of the unhappy marriage between the Prison Department and the Highway Commission.

A Fashion Brief For Ike Likers

ONE OF THE boons of Dwight David Eisenhower's long name has been its forced contraction into "Ike," a word well fitted to newspaper headlines, chummy political chats, and simple answers.

You ask a man his opinion on the price of steak in Pakistan, or hogs in Iowa, and he says with incisive clarity: "I like Ike." It rhymes and, for many, it takes a load off their noodles. A man who likes Ike is safe—socially, economically and emotionally.

Well, it won't last. Ike likers will have to brace themselves before the fact that the rhyme is changing, and also that a horrid number of new verses are being added.

As a pre-campaign service to Ike likers revised verbal responses and mechanical gadgets are hereby listed, courtesy of manufacturers of novelty clothing and political buttons.

The new buttons will read and Ike likers are to say: "I Still Like Ike" ... "Let's Back Ike" ... "Back Ike's Program" ... "We Want Ike Again" ... "Win With Ike" ... "For The Love Of Ike Vote Republican."

The kitchenware Eisenhower home needs a beer-can opener adorned with real or paste diamonds, rubies and sapphires spelling "Ike." Ladies are to carry fans saying (here it comes) "I Am An Eisenhower Fan." Also they're to have raincoats emblazoned with "Woman Power For Eisenhower," pearl necklaces dangling "Ike" pendants, bracelets dangling elephants and brooches projecting the image of Ike and Mamie. Next to the beer can opener, hang a magnetized "Ike" potholder.

On the auto put a rubber bumper guard saying (here it comes again) "Don't Bump A Good Man Out Of The White House." Children are to wear tee shirts with the legend: "I'm Safe With Ike."

The Battle Of Words Is A Farce

THE SIGN, Washington newsmen insist, really exists.

It is headed "Republican Achievements" and goes something like this: "Social security extended. Health, education and welfare extended. Socialist trend reversed."

Political double talk? Reverse English? Perhaps. But, more important, it illustrates a lesson in political semantics wherein there are "good" words and "bad" words and never the twain shall meet. The distinction, however, is artificial.

"Socialist" is a "bad" word. "Social security" is "good." The fact that "social security" is, when you get right down to it, more than a little "socialistic" doesn't seem to matter.

Absurd? But the little absurdity is part of a bigger absurdity that dominates our economic and political life today: An imaginary and largely meaningless debate between "socialism" and "capitalism," a debate characterized by high abstractions and omitting any facts which might be subject to verification. The Democrats and Republicans are equally to blame. Both have helped create an imaginary battle. The economists have helped. "The besetting sin of economists," said F. S. Oliver, a British journalist, "was their preference for argument over observation." For instance, distressingly few of the "dependable" economic laws are actually based upon controlled experiments.

Among both politicians and economists, the weapons are words—and they are loaded. Take "welfare state." It has become, of late, almost a swear word. Yet the U. S. Constitution aims to provide for the "general welfare" and any list of activities which are clearly concerned with welfare and the supplying of needs at collective expense, which individuals cannot or do not supply for themselves, would include:

A man can't get away with the "I Like Ike" response anymore. He's either going to have to say something involved like "For The Love Of Ike Vote Republican"



The President In Costume

or remain mute while revealing a galter embossed with "I'm Pulling For Ike."

The buttons we can abide, but the other thingamabobs, whatnots and whatchamacallits threaten an incredible cluttering up of homes, autos and people. In the face of that our plan is to retire unprofitably to the backyard, while "Ike" races about on auto bumpers, opens beer, picks up hot pots, and hangs around women's necks and the sweaty chests of the tee-shirt set.

We will raise no verbal outcry whatsoever, but our trusty shotgun will blow to smithereens the very first lightning bug that turns on a tall saying "Light Up With Ike!"

The Battle Of Words Is A Farce

The public school system, land grant colleges, the GI Bill of Rights, the Public Health Service, pure food and drug inspection, the Red Cross, Community Chests and United Funds, school lunch programs, old-age pensions, unemployment compensation, federal insurance of bank deposits and other activities too numerous to mention.

Most of these activities might fall within the definition of socialism yet most have the American public's enthusiastic support.

But most Americans are not socialists. Neither are they living under a system of pure capitalism. Our economy is a mixed dish, a carefully balanced diet selected for maximum economic and social vigor. There is government ownership and there is private ownership. There are, in addition, labor unions, management associations, cooperatives, and nonprofit organizations like colleges, churches and foundations.

And we once had a president who said: "The legitimate object of government is to do for a community whatever they need to have done, but cannot do for themselves." He was a Republican named Abraham Lincoln.

A little girl dashed over to her mother in a great excitement. She had found a pressed maple leaf in the pages of the family Bible. "Just look what I've found, Mother," she cried. "I bet it belonged to Eve."—LAMAR (M.O.) DEMOCRAT.

The way Khrushchev and Bulganin travel around together looking like Tweedle de dee and Tweedle de dum, you would think that each thinks he better not trust the other out of his sight. And maybe both are right.—KINGSPOFF (TENN.) TIMES.

When my boy gets to acting like a fool, I don't believe in heredity.—WAYNESBORO (GA.) TRUE CRIZZEN.

People's Platform

Editors, The News: THE last paragraph of Mr. Bergamini's review of 'Aida' he poignantly inquires: 'Isn't there some way this production can be repeated?'

The question that Mr. Bergamini poses occurred to many in the packed Ovens Auditorium last Tuesday as Verdi's 'Aida' came to life in its huge stage.

Here was "Aida" in all its majestic beauty, its pathos, its intensity, portrayed and executed by a superb cast. Here was the peak of excellence, the utmost in skillful, sensitive performances, the most enchanting in music brought to an appreciative audience that showed its delight by its unrestrained applause and the "bravos" that resounded again and again.

This was the rewarding culmination of a united effort on the part of many. This was the marshaling of our diversified cultural forces to produce a dramatic, inspiring, heart-warming presentation that, to this viewer, has not been surpassed here by any aggregation, professional or amateur.

Demanding superlatives, vocally, visually, musically and dramatically, "Aida" was an inspiring pattern against an impressive background of rugged, breathtaking Egyptian architecture.

To single out a performer or technician for special mention here would be most indicative and inappropriate. Sufficient to say that the cast of performers, including the night to make "Aida" the living, breathing, pulsating, emotionally satisfying thing it was, we Charlotteans owe a significant debt of gratitude.

Sufficient to pay tribute here to the organizational genius of General Director John Richards McCrae for localizing many divergent talents into one stupendous and memorable production.

But the doleful note in an otherwise harmonious landscape lies in Mr. Bergamini's query: "Isn't there some way this production can be repeated?"

"Aida" stands out as one of our very finest cultural achievements. Shall we let it slip into oblivion after one performance?

Shall we sit back blasé and indifferent and permit this priceless asset in the sphere of culture to be dispersed by disinterest?

It is true that almost 2,500 people taxed the capacity of Ovens Auditorium last Tuesday. But can we content ourselves with that? Can we be so insensitive, so unimaginative that we fail to grasp the significance of this event? What does it mean to the community? Its enormous possibilities?

Have we accorded it an equitable measure of recognition? Hardly!

Twenty five hundred people, however enthusiastic and appreciative, is a paltry number to view such an outstanding production.

"Aida," superbly created by the comparatively young Charlotte Opera Association, cries out for a vastly larger audience. 2,500? No! 25,000 at least, but preferably 50,000, or 100,000.

To see anything even approaching the mastery of "Aida" we would have to travel hundreds of miles. How many children, the adults of tomorrow, will have such an opportunity?

How many children in Charlotte, and Mecklenburg were encouraged to see "Aida"? How many had the chance to be exposed to the gift of Verdi's talents and his splendid music?

You could count them on not too many fingers!

In many cases there was no attempt to stimulate their interest. Where the interest did exist, many could not afford it for such is the prohibitive price tag that culture bears that it is within the reach, not of many, but of the few.

Why could we not promote a citywide, countywide or even statewide performance of such musical events as "Aida" solely for school children? The admission fee could be nominal, perhaps 35 or 50 cents. The cost of underwriting such a performance would be nominal.

Do we not owe it to the next generation to help them cultivate an appreciation for some of the great music, drama and opera? Without too much effort, we can put it within their grasp.

Without bestirring ourselves too violently we might even avoid to so aggravate of the asset we hold in the palm of our hand in a locally sponsored and created

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THE first real casualty of McCarthyism came up today before the people of Maryland. He is Millard Tydings, the Democratic senator who headed the committee to investigate McCarthy's original charges of 205 card-carrying Communists in the State Department and who, when he failed to know under McCarthy, found himself defeated for reelection.

Fake Photo McCarthy called upon his Chicago Tribuneing funds, collected \$10,000 from Texas oil tycoon Clint Murchison and wife, circulated a fake photo of Tydings shaking hands with Edward G. Bremer and managed to knock Tydings out of the Senate.

No less than FDR had tried to defeat him in 1928, but the fog of McCarthyism was such that the senator from Wisconsin succeeded where the President of the United States had failed.

Viva 'Aida': Charlotte Should Share Its Riches



The Set For Charlotte Opera Association's 'Aida'

production such as "Aida." We might even throw out our chests and brag about it with justifiable civic pride!

—JEFF PLACE

Marine Death March: Shame And Disgrace

Editors, The News: OUR WHOLE nation has been shocked by the unnecessary death of six fine young men at Paris Island. The Marine Corps, after investigation, stated to the world that the staff sergeant who led the death march was intoxicated at the time and that he had been drinking off and on since late morning and that the medical officer who examined him two hours after the accident testified he was in possession of his faculties but had a suggestive odor of alcohol on his breath.

A bereaved mother stated in an interview that as far as she was concerned she hoped the sergeant would get all that the law allows.

Almost always, I am strongly in favor of mercy, especially if there is any evidence of repentance, but in this case I cannot help but feel as does that mother.

It is a crying shame and disgrace that a young man can be forced into military service by draft and then forced by military code to obey without question a superior officer even though it costs him his life. Any man whose order carries with it the possibility of life or death should have character of the highest order and should be in fullest possession of his faculties. The staff sergeant is not the only responsible party. The government and the citizens who permit this to happen are guilty before God and will be accountable at the judgment. Who are Christians they want their

children to have the best entertainment there is that is clean. Today many dad and mothers are shedding tears over things their boys and girls have done. If they had given them love and kindness and lived right before them they would not have heavy burdens to bear.

—MRS. MAYME BARGER

Music Is Fine If It Is Decent

Editors, The News: I READ a piece where a mother said, if her children liked rock 'n' roll music she'd let them. Music is fine if it is decent but some of it is awful. I would not want a child of mine staying up all a rock 'n' roll show till all hours of the night. You can make harm in anything but I am sure if you parents are Christians they want their

Culture is that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, morals and law. All cultures contain basically similar elements and conform to a common scheme or pattern. Each culture group, isolated from others and living in terms of its own culture, tends to assume its way of life, manners and morals to be superior; but persons whose contacts are varied are more tolerant. All groups men from the lowest to the highest possess distinctly human traits in common.

—H. L. FERGUSON

'Dick, If I Could Borrow Checkers — Hello? Hello?'



HEBLOKE GETS THE WASHINGTON POST COPY

McCarthyism's Casualties Battle Back

So the people around the nation today will be watching Maryland to see whether Tydings will be voted vindication. Whether he is or not, the events of the last two years have certainly given vindication.

Roll Call Of 'Reds'

Owen Lattimore, the John Hopkins professor whom McCarthy smeared and Tydings defended, has now been cleared by the courts.

Phony Witnesses

Edward Lamb, the Toledo radio-TV owner, smeared by the FCC as a Communist, has now shown that the witnesses accusing him were phonies. One

has been convicted of perjury. Jacob Burck, the Chicago Sun-Times cartoonist accused by the late Paul Crouch of being a Communist, has been exonerated. Crouch, the professional witness for the Justice Department who also tried to smear Aubrey Williams, former youth administrator, and Clifford Durr, brother-in-law of Justice Hugo Black, was so discredited that the Justice Department dropped him.

Other Misfires

Abraham Chasnov, who was dropped by the Navy Department as a security risk, was rehired by the Navy with an apology.

Mrs. Annie Lee Moss, who was hauled up before McCarthy's committee and charged with being a Communist, has been rehired by the Army.

Dr. Ralph Bunche, the Negro diplomat who was investigated by the Justice Department for seven months, was cleared. Not all these cases were attributable

directly to McCarthy. But it was his tactics which created such a terrorist atmosphere that in some cases Attorney General Brownell almost outdid him, and which caused the resignation of the president of the Carnegie Institution, to warn: "The Eisenhower security system has dropped the ball. It is time to see how our world leadership in atomic research is in danger."

McCarthy's Legacy

That statement, made two years ago, was all too prophetic of the current fact that Russia appears to be ahead of us in hydrogen research and may be ahead of us in guided missiles.

How much work has been done to the nation during the period of McCarthyism may not be known for some time. Meanwhile we are trying to see how the people of Maryland vote on one of the few senators who had the courage to stand up against it, and got defeated for his pains.

—W. FRANK DOWD JR., President, Mecklenburg County Tuberculosis and Health Assn.

—JAMES A. WHITE, Seal Sale Chairman

No reputable student of culture uses race as a basic fact (biologically) the Negro is inferior to the whites. There is no adequate proof. Its basic concepts grow out of the practice of segregation. It's the Negro's historic background (the ideas, beliefs, and attitudes associated with him) that gives the Negro his low-caste position rather than an established inferiority.

—MRS. ELIZABETH LEAK

On Remembering, A Rival System

Editors, The News: I ENJOY reading Mr. Blomberg's column and think he is superior to many systems of mnemonics I have read, and I hope he proves correct, and I believe he is. I hope he comes and murder should be used by men like him. I certainly want him to know that I am ready to see his system I can get a million or more people a figure or several figures and if stamming and time permitted I can easily learn it. With my system I can get a million or more people a figure or several figures and if stamming and time permitted I can easily learn it. With my system I can get a million or more people a figure or several figures and if stamming and time permitted I can easily learn it.

—JAMES SHAW CONYERS

Race Is Not Reason For Negro's Position

Editors, The News: A UNIQUE letter published May 2 stated in part, "if you stack the Negro and white kids from the nursery to manhood in the classrooms, playgrounds and buses like sardines in a can, you may as well teach them under the same cover, in the same bed." He is more than 100 years late with his admonition. The white Negro (expectant) mothers were not frightened by a white sheet hanging on the line. This, too, happened in a segregated society. Amalgamation is one of the oddest facts of history. The mingling of the races has been going on so long and so persistently that there are few, if any, pure racial types. Cultures and races have crossed until there is no important culture which one can call the product of a single race.

—J. HENRY FRANKLIN

The Ku Klux Klan: Who's Kidding Who?

Editors, The News: IN REFERENCE to your May 1 editorial, "The New Klan: A Study in Fatigue," I think it is pertinent to ask: Who are you kidding, yourselves or your readers?

—J. HENRY FRANKLIN

Hunt Up People Who Need Help

Editors, The News: MORE than a million dollars a year are raised in Charlotte by organizations in the name of the needy. I think it is a shame for the people of Charlotte to allow any person, regardless of the circumstances, to have their household goods moved out in the streets.

The people who give donations to these so-called charitable organizations ought to hunt up the people who need help and see to it that they get it. What crimes are committed in the name of charity.

—FARRIS A. VANDLER

By Comparison, Sugar Creek Is Like Viatches

Editors, The News: Myrtle Beach, S.C. I READ your news dispatch regarding a paper mill being established near Charlotte.

If it is anything like the one at Georgetown, S. C. you had better persuade them to remove it to at least 100 miles. Sugar Creek smells the sweet essence of viatches by comparison.

I first smelled the plant at Ocean View, 30 miles away, and thought some large something was dead, or all the septic tanks had gone on the blink.

I am deeply sorry, Sirs.

—WILSON T. KING

For Seal Sale Help, A Note Of Thanks

Editors, The News: WE WANTED to make specific your appreciation to the working businessmen and women who cooperated so willingly with us during our Christmas Seal Sale.

Your cooperation contributed to goals over and above the fundraising aspect of the Christmas Seal Sale. This is true since we do receive the most hearted support all year long. It is also true since the objective of the Seal Sale extends beyond the money we receive. The sale alerts the public to tuberculosis, and helps each person recall his own responsibilities. It also informs the public as to what is required to fight this disease.

We trust that you will extend our thanks to each person on your staff.

—W. FRANK DOWD JR., President, Mecklenburg County Tuberculosis and Health Assn.

—JAMES A. WHITE, Seal Sale Chairman