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Editorial Correspondence

Tar Heels Must Match Hodges' Spirit In Order To Protect The Public Schools

By CECIL PRINCE Associate Editor, The News

WHAT one listens most for in this cacophony of affirmation is any echo, however faint, of individual maturity. Seldom has any legislative operation been so well planned in advance. Never have allegiances been so finely drawn. Opponents of the Pearsall Plan—and there are some lurking farly in the halls of the House and Senate—are left with a feeling of impotence and isolation. It is reflected somewhat in their desire to appear tough-minded and their fear of being thought naive. Such toughness may then, in the end, result in the acceptance of the belligerent attitudes of the majority and a further weakening of any visionary hopes and motives. Only in the public hearings which opened this morning was this conformist atmosphere punctured with any great skill or conviction. Even the rigid ideas of Rep. B. I. Satterfield are, at least temporarily, attracting little genuine enthusiasm. The same is true of Rep. E. K. Powell's amendment-splitting plan. But the consensus is that the General Assembly has made up its mind. It knows what it must do. The impassioned speech of Gov. Hodges before last night's joint session seemed to cement the will of the already dominant faction.

HOWEVER unhappy the early dissenters may still be by the way that the special session is going, they are no longer very shocked. And what people begin to expect—then come to accept—of others, they must gradually begin to adopt for themselves. This whole exercise here is based upon the consoling view that society can be counted upon to generate the antidotes to its own ills. The antidote must be strong, timely and appeal to the vaguely recalled, half-dreamlike allegiances and convictions serving people as ideology. Therapy prescribed by Gov. Hodges and his Advisory Committee on Education meets all of these requirements. It has the further advantage of being the product of men who are so clearly dedicated to preserving the public peace. Anyone who doubts the good intentions of the committee is dangerously underestimating the depth of the man's feelings about what he calls "the greatest crisis which North Carolina has ever experienced." After speaking with him privately in the informality of his office and watching him in the massed legislators at last night's joint session, one cannot help but be impressed by the man's conscientiousness. It is a conscientiousness born of a deep and abiding faith in the wisdom of North Carolina's people. Even in differing with the governor on details of his plan for meeting the

challenge of the Supreme Court's desegregation decision, one must respect his honesty and dedication. One of the great leaders of the South, he is unique in his highly developed respect for the normal, orthodox processes of constitutional government. Even though he disagrees with the Supreme Court in its desegregation decision, he maintains that the court must not be defied. He said here last night:

North Carolina is one of the United States and North Carolinians are citizens of the United States. We are each and all a part of one indivisible nation and none of us, I am sure, could have it otherwise.

When our nation's government takes a wrong road as, in my opinion, it is doing by allowing the Supreme Court decision to be enforced as law, we in North Carolina will do everything we can to alert the rest of the nation that this matter is sincere. In the second place, we can use our influence in such manner as we can to change the bad state of affairs.

But this is important, North Carolinians have no desire or intent to defy our country's government, simply because we believe it is making an error. In the first place, a course of defiance would forfeit whatever chance we might have of convincing the rest of the nation that our position in this matter is sincere. In the second place, such a course would get us nowhere.

I suppose my feelings on this can be summed up simply by paraphrasing a toast offered by Stephen Decatur many, many years ago:

"Our country! May she always be right, but our country, right or wrong." Instead, the governor recommends that North Carolina use every legal means to prevent any child from attending a mixed school against his or her will.

This sounds reasonable enough to Tar Heels who prize segregation as an essential way of life.

BUT to perfect his remedies, the governor would tie together in one constitutional amendment:

1—Tuition grants for children who do not wish to attend mixed schools. 2—A "local option" plan to permit closing of public schools by vote in any given locality where conditions become "intolerable."

It is this second proposal which dangerously weakens the state's constitutional duty to provide a system of free and uniform public schools. And it is the principle of public education which is most threatened by the atmosphere of conformity in Raleigh today. Here is the danger. Here, too, is the challenge. It is a condition demanding dedication as deep and as conscientious as the governor's.

GI Bill Satisfied The Want To Know

THERE were, as predicted, some shock of World War veterans. One veteran studying engraving at Uncle Sam's expense practiced his new art by counterfeiting Uncle Sam's currency. Others wasted money in such doubtful educational ventures as schools bartending and horseback riding. But as the 12-year program comes to an end Wednesday the record will support a judgment of significant success. Most of the waste occurred as the result of fly-by-night operations tailored to take advantage of loopholes in the law. Reputable institutions in which the great majority of veterans were enrolled turned out millions of well trained citizens. These institutions did not, as some educators feared, become virtual boot camps after the influx of veterans. Instead they became the source of a huge reservoir of trained manpower for an increasingly complex civilization. A total of 2,200,000 veterans took ad-

vantage of the GI Bill to go to colleges or graduate schools. They did better work than their non-veteran classmates, and demonstrated earnestness of purpose and intellectual curiosity that arched academic eyebrows in classrooms around the country. Some professors reported that they had to start studying again. "I had to throw away my yellow notes when the veterans came," one economics professor said. "They wanted more than pat answers. They wanted to know why."

The wanting to know why accounts for the success of the program. Satisfaction of the want accounts for the higher educational level of a whole generation. The want to know will be spread through succeeding generations in a widening wave of respect and desire for education. This will be the GI Bill's contribution to a future already enhanced by the training in colleges, shops and on farms of almost eight million former servicemen.

From The Milwaukee Journal

IS STORYTELLING A DYING ART?

CAN it be true that storytelling is passing as an amateur art? The death of Alben Barkley, Kentucky senator and former "Veep" and always the consummate storyteller, gives further cause to wonder. For who among the leading public figures of the day will replace him as one always ready with a true story—or almost true—apropos of almost anything under discussion. Kindly Alben Barkley was the product of an unhurried people in a more leisurely period. Fifty years ago folks didn't lean on movies, radio and television for their amusement. A few highly paid comedians on the airwaves couldn't worry a new story to tatters in a week. So the talent of telling stories entertainingly was highly regarded. People had time to listen. The amateur storyteller had ample opportunities to develop and perfect his skills. And there were few

neighborhoods or families which didn't have a champion who wore his ribbons proudly.

The pros probably do it better nowadays. Yet there is still cause to shed a nostalgic tear for the old days when good, jovial storytelling was primarily a sand lot—or a cracker barrel—sport for anyone.

Easing the engine to a stop at a water tank, the old engineer briefed his green young fireman. The fireman climbed to the tender, as per instructions, and managed to bring the spout down all right. But somehow his foot tangled in the chain and he floundered right into the tank. The engineer regarded him and his plight with lanced eye. "Just fill the tank with water, Sonny," he drawled. "No need to tramp it down."—FORT MYERS (FLA.) NEWS-PRESS.

'Thanks, Dear. Now I'm—Uh—Going Away For Awhile'



Can Radioactive Rain Be Stopped? Clean Cities & Dirty Bombs

By JOSEPH AND STEWART ALPOP

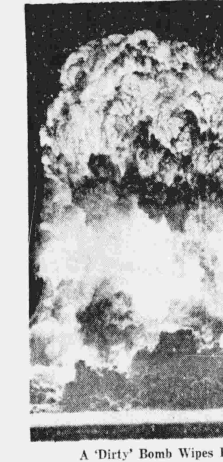
A FEW days ago, Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Lewis Strauss issued a statement about the recent Pacific hydrogen tests, which could be of historic scientific and strategic importance. It could also be thoroughly disingenuous, and wholly false in its reassuring implications. The statement was as follows: "It has been confirmed that there are many factors, including operational ones, which do make it possible to localize to an extent not heretofore appreciated the fall-out of nuclear explosions." There is little doubt about the primary purpose of the statement. L. J. Gen. James Gavin's recently released testimony that a major hydrogen attack would cause "several million deaths," and that the death area would "back up well into Western Europe," naturally caused a furore in Europe. Strauss' statement was clearly intended to reassure the Europeans.

REAL MEANING But the real meaning of his statement is far less clear. It could mean that the Atomic Energy Commission has succeeded in achieving a "clean bomb"—a bomb with little or no radioactive side effects. It can be reported authoritatively that research contracts for a "clean bomb" have

been let. But it can also be stated authoritatively that the technological hurdles which must be overcome to achieve such a bomb are immense. Previous efforts to make a "clean bomb" (which would be a fusion bomb, rather than a fission-fusion-fission bomb, like the "dirty" bombs now in both American and Soviet stockpiles) have met a "technological blank wall." If the AEC scientists have in fact overleapt the blank wall, and the strategic situation has been altered in a significant way, CRYPTIC REFERENCE But if the AEC has invented a "clean bomb," why did not Strauss openly boast to the world about this humanitarian achievement? And why should he make his cryptic reference to "operational factors"? And why was the order for Strategic Air Command to "explode all its bombs at an altitude of two miles or more?"

SMALL PART The answer lies in the nature of the bomb. A high burst hydrogen bomb would certainly tear the heart out of a great city. That is why the Strategic Air Command to "explode all its bombs at an altitude of two miles or more?"

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A 'Dirty' Bomb Wipes Earth's Face

Tennessee Trio Takes Top Roles For Demo Convention

By CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY

WASHINGTON

THE Tennesseans' role at the Democratic National Convention can be summed up this way: Refuse to be the candidate; Clement is the keynote; and, Gore is just waiting to be called.

The last-named and, perhaps, least-well-known of the Volunteer State's remarkable trio of young political leaders is 48-year-old Sen. Alben Barkley.

At handshaking, he is no match for 32-year-old Sen. Estes Kefauver. At oratory, 36-year-old Gov. Frank Clement is his better.

Yet there are those who think Gore is the likeliest of the three to gain a place on the national ticket.

A MODERATE A former state moderate who has held himself aloof from Kefauver's campaign for the presidential nomination, he would balance a ticket headed by either Averell Harriman or Adlai E. Stevenson. Gore, himself, says only that he would be "surprised and flattered" if anyone considered him for the vice presidency.

Here are the "tangibles" that make him potentially attractive. His career is in the classic pattern, including a spell of teaching, then night law school, then farming and small business. He left Congress to serve in the Army in World War II.

But, he neither smokes nor drinks. His wife, Pauline, is rated an excellent campaigner. They have a son, and a daughter, 18.

SIX PERMS Gore, though young, is an experienced and successful politician. He was elected to the House in 1938 and for six terms thereafter. In 1952 he won his Senate seat by challenging and defeating the veteran Sen. Kenneth D. McKellar in the Democratic primary.

Gore played the fiddle to draw crowds in his early campaigns. Later, he became one of the first congressmen to make extensive use of television.

LIKELY PROFS In Congress, Gore has been about as "regular" as the average Democrat. Congressional Quarterly listed him in votes where both Democratic and Republican majorities were supported. He supported the Democrats 62 per cent of the time in 1955.

Gore's name was on the 1949 farm bill extending 90 per cent of the farm price supports, and he has continued to vote for the high, rigid props.

The answer to political model, the late Cordell Hull, he is a champion of low tariffs and free trade. Gore is a strong defender of TVA and other water projects. He is a leader in the fight against the Dixie States power contract.

PEACEFUL ATOM A member of the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, Gore has pressed the administration to accelerate development of peaceful atomic power plants. He was the floor manager and principal author of the giant highway program approved this year.

Gore represents a state with many southern customs. But he voted for an anti-poll tax bill in 1947 and has declined to sign the Southern Manifesto criticizing the Supreme Court's school desegregation decision. He is co-sponsor of the bill for federal aid to education.

LABOR LAW Gore, on the other hand, stands he has taken credit cost Gore support for the nomination. Foremost of these is his 1947 vote for the Taft-Hartley Act, a position he has never publicly modified. In particular areas he votes against the Reagan Relief Act and the Upper Colorado reclamation project which is used against him.

Gore runs up his own record as "middle of the road. It does not particularly please either the extreme right or the extreme left. Congressional Quarterly found he supported and opposed President Eisenhower's stand on an equal number of votes in 1955.

Early in 1954 he was saying, "Even to a Democrat, Dwight D. Eisenhower is the man, I vote for him." Recently, he has sharpened his criticism of the President.

Gore told Connecticut Democrats that he would "if the Republican nominees are Mr. Eisenhower and Mr. Nixon, then I say to you, with the deepest of conviction, that I will vote for the man, I vote for him." He has expressed his criticism of the President.

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SEN. GORE FIELDS AID TV

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People's Platform

Hodges Was Right To Snub Harriman

Editors, The News: I HAVE been reading about the comments on Elvis Presley and rock 'n' roll. I wish that you and the patrons would leave us managers and Elvis Presley alone. I wish you could tell me what I wish with Elvis Presley. If he is to have any talent surely he wouldn't be one of the top singers in the nation.

Leave Elvis Presley & Teenagers Alone

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He is just a young boy who is trying to make good, which he has. Why stop him? He's just entertainment like Liberace. Except Elvis is more popular than Liberace is with teenagers. I don't like Liberace, and I know a lot of teenagers that don't, but we don't criticize him.

Elvis Presley is not a singer that slips around on the stage and he surely isn't vulgar. He is just expressing his feelings in a "rock 'n' roll" way. You have a certain thing that you are particularly fond of, so to express your feelings, you talk about it or write about it. It's the same thing with Elvis. He expresses his feelings when he sings by the movement of his legs.

I don't know if you read about Ed Sullivan signing Elvis up. He said himself that he likes Elvis Presley. He sees nothing wrong with him.

Remember we are only young once. Let us teenagers enjoy our young life while we can. Don't ruin it for us. Don't ruin Elvis Presley.

Name Withheld by Request.

—S. C. VAUGHN

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round Auto Industry Promoted Steel Strike

WASHINGTON ONE factor handicapping the steel strike negotiations is the absence of Ben Fairless, kindly, powerful former head of the U.S. Steel Corp., who always dominated past wage talks. Backed Raises Fairless, an orphan raised by an uncle who was a coal miner, was sympathetic to labor. And though he rose to become head of the world's greatest steel company, he was largely responsible for okaying health care increases to steelworkers. He and Dave McDonald, head of the United Steelworkers, were understanding friends. During the closing days of the steel

negotiations just before the strike was called, U.S. Steel still seemed more sympathetic to the union's position than other companies. But there were several roadblocks, as follows: Auto Industry Roadblock No. 1 — The two companies which do most of their business with the automobile companies, Bethlehem and National Steel, were the toughest negotiators. It looked as if they wanted a strike. This fits in with the word, passed down the industry, that Ernie Breech of Ford and Harlow Curtice of General Motors were not at all interested in a steel strike which would give them an excuse for closing down, thus using

up the huge car surplus on hand this year as a result of overselling last year. Roadblock No. 2 — With Fairless now on the sidelines, the steel moguls adopted the Boulware technique in their negotiations. This technique, developed by John Boulware of General Electric, is a take-it-or-leave-it approach. Industry approaches the conference table and says: "This is it, boys. This is all you're going to get. The longer you delay, the more you lose, because you won't get retroactivity." General Electric has been able to get away with this because many of its workers are not unionized. But Westinghouse used this approach and found it self with one of the longest and bitterest

strikes in recent years. It still hasn't recovered. The steel moguls tried the Boulware technique in their recent talks—against Ed Sullivan, John Stephens—and ended with a strike. The Stephens-Fairless technique has been to work up gradually to terms which seem about right for both sides. Roadblock No. 3 — Wall Street bankers who have a hand in guiding the steel industry want a five-year contract. Let us teenagers enjoy our young life while we can. Don't ruin it for us. Don't ruin Elvis Presley.