



# EDITORIAL PAGE THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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## Judge Sink's Ire

Judge Hoyle Sink, the most outspoken of Superior Court judges, is surely not playing a lone hand in his campaign against Hirohito and acceptance of Japanese Emperor-worship. But he speaks so vigorously that it's obvious he wouldn't care if he were alone against the world. His rather furious objections to retention of the Emperor and all he stands for have been noted previously, of course; no one has made more telling assaults.

The Judge considers us to be suckers to be drawn into defense of the Japanese Emperor, and regards the proposition that Japan's holy war-maker be supervised by General MacArthur as of little importance. What matters, he has been insisting, is that we have left intact the very totalitarian system which made war upon us and which may one day make war again. He, as millions of others, suspects that any system of government, based upon the power of a living deity over the life and thoughts of a people holds a danger for world peace.

There is not a little evidence in recent Japanese behavior to bolster his stand. There was the commander at Singapore who announced defiantly that the war was not really over, that the Japanese stood ready to crush the foe. There was the uncertainty in Tokyo, suggesting that the fanatical subjects of the Emperor were not taking to the idea of having a foreigner boss Hirohito—or else that they had not been apprised of that deal at all.

There was the curious announcement that Japanese would not be allowed to fraternize with the American forces of occupation. It all sounded as if a still-sovereign and all-powerful Japan designed to permit the Americans to visit her shores—but that she was not willing to accept the decision of battle. With a great army still intact, and the frenzied national spirit of conquest yet undimmed, it will be most difficult to teach Japan to accept the terms of occupation. That should give Judge Sink and others who have been crying warning a certain grim satisfaction that their darkest suspicions are well founded.

## Now At Last

Senator Mead's announcement that the case of Admiral Kimmel and General Short would soon be "reviewed" in Washington will revive old animosities and suspicions, but the nation at large will greet the opening of the Pearl Harbor case with a sigh of relief and intense interest. The military incident of war, we suppose, has so drawn the public eye as has the hidden Pearl Harbor investigation.

There was the first searing shock accompanied by whistles, heard in 1942, when the battleship Arizona had been destroyed. There was the Knox report, intended to allay public fears without giving the Japs a hint of the actual damage done. There was the report of Justice Roberts, which told the public more of the facts and the hurried deliberation by the War and Navy Departments last Fall, about election time. In the meantime, there were constant calls for public hearings for Admiral Kimmel and General Short. If the country is to have any sense of innocent or guilty, they should be given the chance to answer to charges, and speak their piece.

To the end, it was insisted that military security was being maintained. It was demanded that the case remained closed until the end of the war. Finally, a hearing was promised within six months after victory. There are those who still argue vociferously that the trial should have been held in 1942, that military security was not at stake, that political considerations were involved, that it was Franklin Roosevelt's neglect which had brought on the dis-

ter. There were and are all kinds of charges.

At last, it appears that we may hear the truth. The Navy, pushed for an answer, said that no more would be done on its Pearl Harbor reports until after Japan's final surrender. So long as we've waited these years, we suppose we can wait some more. But the long postponement of the year that has not only placed these officers under a cloud, it has created suspicion in the public mind that things are not what they should be, and the country will watch proceedings with a somewhat jaundiced eye.

## China's Ills

Even before General MacArthur descends upon Japan with his great forces of occupation it becomes obvious that the keeping of peace in Asia is not limited to Nippon alone. On the mainland there is great unrest, stirred by scores of unsolved mysteries and unanswered problems. The greatest of these surround China as if she were under actual siege.

In Washington this week General de Gaulle is busy talking with President Truman about Indo-China, that great colony which is a third larger than France itself, and whose 26 millions make up a third of the whole of French empire. France wants assurance that the United Nations do not plan to challenge her sovereignty in Indo-China, where she has been accused of oppressing the natives and bleeding the land of its great riches. She is disturbed by rumors that the United Nations may demand trusteeship for the colony, or that the U. S. might demand naval bases there. And Indo-China means everything to France, despite the fact that Vichy as much as gave it to Japan.

That colony means a great deal to China, too. She lost her most vital remaining outlet to the outside world through French concessions to Japan after the Pacific war. She has been petitioning before approving French control. De Gaulle, having launched a plan to grant the colony autonomy in a French Federal Union, is bidding for Chinese support. That is only one of China's problems. To the South, there are even more serious threats.

The great border region held by the Communist armies, rapidly becoming more self-sufficient, may expand considerably. They are being urged by the Central Government troops will have to fight for supremacy—and to keep Japanese out of Red hands. China set T. V. Soong, its most able diplomat, to work on this problem. In Moscow, the Chinese are being urged to act as "cornerstone of a durable peace in the Far East." The world does not know the price China paid for Russian friendship, but it is apparent that one of China's greatest needs has been a guarantee that Russia would not support the Communists who now challenge Chiang.

The mere settlement of differences with Moscow strengthens the position of the Central Government, but the threat of civil war is not yet removed. The Red armies are the most powerful and effective which have fought in China in this war, and political and economic life in the border region is fast being ruined. The Communists know it. The Yanan regime, in fact, has made such a powerful appeal to its millions of people through a workable democracy that Chanking is not likely to win them by force or persuasion. China has been engaged in war longer than any other victim of Axis aggression, and her return to peace, too, is likely to be long and difficult.

Roughly, the English-speaking world is divided into two great classes—Americans who look like Truman, and Britons who are ringers for Attlee.

## Statesmen At Work

(Serious, facetious and comic excerpts from the Congressional Record)

The Senate was talking about currency stabilization, when it slipped down in a cycle.

Mr. TAIT. Let me call attention to the fact that when a country, say, has a balance of trade surplus, and when it loses it on that basis, and when it is understood that the cycle may not come around in nine years, in effect, we are making it a nine-year loan.

Mr. RADCLIFFE. How can it be made under some very unusual circumstances. But the question arises whether, if that were done occasionally, it would be for the real purpose which is contemplated by the fund and that is to help tide over special cases of financial distress.

Mr. TAIT. But do the Senator from Maryland and the Senator from New York agree substantially with Mr. TAIT's interpretation of the word "cyclical"? Can we obtain an answer to that question?

Mr. RADCLIFFE. How long the cycle might last is purely a matter of speculation. It has been suggested that under some very unusual circumstances such a cycle might last nine years. Probably it would.

Mr. TAIT. Nine years is a cycle, because it is recognized as a regular cycle of economic ups and downs. So it seems to me that if it applies in one case, it might well apply in every case. The main thing is, standing, at least, that if the cycle does not roll around again for nine years, the borrower does not have to pay for nine years. Of course, I agree that we cannot tell in advance when the cycle will occur.

Mr. RADCLIFFE. Let me illustrate: What is ordinarily contemplated is that when a country has a balance of trade surplus, it probably sometimes

## The Merry-Go-Round

By Ellis Arnall  
Governor of Georgia

(Ed Note—Governor Arnall is on vacation. Ellis Arnall, former Governor of Georgia, who recently led the fight to abolish the poll tax, contributes today's column as Pearson's guest writer.)

THE reconstruction period will place exceptional strains upon state government. It will determine whether political decentralization, which is almost as essential to domestic security as economic decentralization, will be retained or abandoned.

The magnitude of the problems facing the Federal government will be increased by the fact that the state agencies are alert and effective. In the next few years there will be the eventual test of whether "states rights" mean anything at all except a phrase to be tossed out by stump speakers. Unless "states rights" are coupled with the assumption of responsibility, they will be about as useful as an arpeggio in this day of atomic bombs.

During the last four years, public services have been limited to minimum needs for education, health and public assistance. The physical plants of all units of Government highways, public buildings, sanitary facilities, hospitals, in their condition throughout the nation.

This presents a challenge to state governments in met needs within their spheres promptly. If they do not do so, they will create a vacuum into which the Federal Government must inevitably move in response to urgent public demand. Decentralization is not an excuse for a static inaction. It will not be accepted as an excuse by the people of the various states. The public has strong objections to centralization, but it has even stronger antipathy for doubtful neglect of vital services.

## Georgia's R. R. Battle

There has been determined protraction in America for 30 years to the effect that state governments were impotent. As a Southern governor, I was supposed to be light-heartedly indifferent on all public occasions about the freight rate discrimination that is one of the main causes of that poverty which is the root of all the South's economic and social ills. But it was presumed, likewise, that action about the matter would be limited to the filing of polite complaints with the drowsy Interstate Commerce Commission and to the assumption in public of a suitable laudatory attitude. The State of Georgia, it was assumed, could do nothing about the matter.

Reports from the Tennessee Valley Authority, the President's Committee, the Southeastern Regional Planning Board and scores of other agencies disclosed the acute need for smothering the transportation cartel. That industrialization, to balance agriculture, was a prime need for the Southern and Western States was strikingly shown by the delay until the termination of the war, permitting the junking of every newly developed

industrial facility in these sections, would be suicidal; was clearly apparent. The Georgia sued in the United States Supreme Court, seeking to break up the intricate unofficial bureaucracy that was imposing outrageous transportation rates on the section.

It could not be done, it was insisted. The Supreme Court would never entertain such an action. Georgia would be the laughing-stock of the country. The preliminary opinion of the Supreme Court, accepting jurisdiction in the case in one of the most far-reaching decisions ever handed down by that tribunal, gave Georgia the last laugh.

## Lazy State Governments

This illustrates the fact that state governments are not ineffective instruments in the public eye, they are pure waste. They possess enormous powers. They can protect the interests of their citizens, if they set out to do so. Laziness has been their curse, and the American public does not like lazy government.

State governments can exercise a wholesome influence in safeguarding against monopolies in encouraging decentralization of industry, and in protecting the natural resources of America from exploitation.

As this country endeavors to organize for reconstruction, it is becoming evident that two bad tangles in our domestic affairs must be straightened: Prosperity must be better distributed through decentralization of industry. Cartels and monopolies must be eliminated, unless we are ready to send free enterprise to the junk pile for good.

The various documents of the special Senate Committee investigating centralization of heavy industry (McCarthy Committee) are impressive evidence that economic decentralization is the only way to encourage cycles of inflation and boom, deflation and depression, cannot be broken until every section of the United States is enabled to utilize its full potential of human and natural resources.

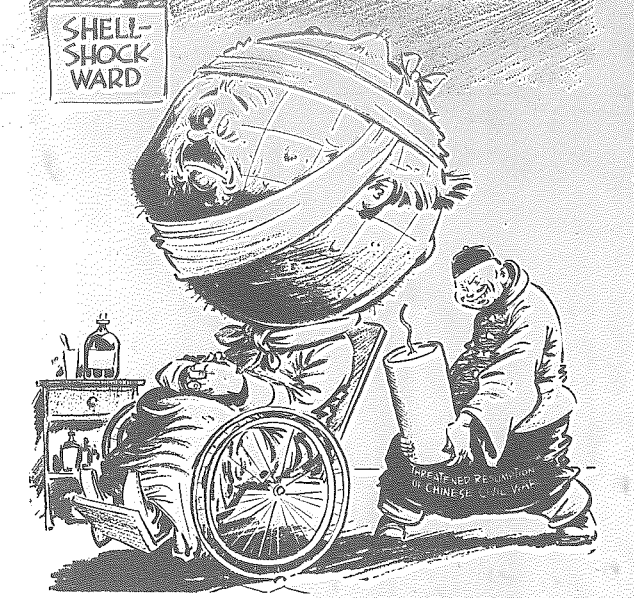
## Monopoly vs. Democracy

Monopolies have no place within a democracy. They are the implements of the ideologists that have just cost America a million casualties and three hundred billion dollars of national wealth. To suppress no program of decentralization of industry, with the wisdom of a uniformly prosperous nation, can be realized unless the monopolies are ruthlessly suppressed. Full employment will be just another ringing phrase to go along with states rights if the cartels, which are allowed free rein during the reconstruction era, are not broken up.

In combating centralization and monopoly, the states have a part to play. They can do much to insure that the "highly efficient" industrial establishments created in the Southern and Western states to meet war needs, are continued in operation. They can act effectively to see that they are not permitted to fall into the hands of interests that plan to junk them to renew their productive capacity.

America needs all of its productive capacity for peace, which in many ways is more severe test of national purpose than was the war.

## Please Please Not Now!



## Peace At Stake In Bulgaria?

By Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON

BOTH American and British have now spoken through their top secretaries for foreign affairs—James F. Byrnes and Ernest Bevin—against the false-front democracy in Bulgaria. Behind their frankness was a bit of drama out of Finland, that has not hitherto been recounted.

Before they went to the Potsdam Conference, both Byrnes and Bevin, accompanied by delegations that were reports about what was happening in Bulgaria. Those reports were not good.

They told of strong-arm tactics by the so-called Bulgarian militia, organized under the supervision of the Soviets. Anyone suspected of opposition to the democracy was likely to get rough treatment.

The leader of the Peasant Party, G. M. Dimitroff, was a refugee in the American Legation and, as of this writing, he is still sheltered there because he fears for his life. Some stories have been found in the Peasant Party to go along with the united front, but reports to Washington and London indicated they are not really representative of what is perhaps the most important group in the country.

In one of the Potsdam sessions, former Prime Minister Churchill brought up the Bulgarian situation, along with reports of similar tactics elsewhere in Eastern Europe. The Russians replied that they had heard of undemocratic methods being employed under British domination in Greece. Churchill thereupon came back with a speech, the purport of which was as follows:

"Soviet Russia has no representatives in Greece. If you did have representatives there, you would quickly see the untruth of these reports. We strongly urge you to send your own people into Greece and we will afford them every opportunity for independent investigation."

In reply of Foreign Commissar Molotov to this was, to say the least, startling to the British and Amer-

icans. In effect, Molotov replied that Soviet Russia did not believe in interfering in the affairs of another country, and that therefore the suggestion must be rejected. Later, the Russians declined to join British, France and the U. S. in sending representatives to assure a fair election in Greece.

Their refusal had not been one for the solemn exchange of views by the heads of state. Molotov's reply might have been greeted with some indignation. As the members of our delegation were well aware, the guiding hand of Soviet Russia is perfectly apparent in the government of Bulgaria.

They have had German Communists, Rumanian Communists, Bulgarian Communists and Hungarian Communists, on for in Moscow for years, trained and ready to move in. These men are pulling the strings, using force ruthlessly to suppress not merely the remnants of the old but the liberals and progressive middle-ground parties, such as the Peasant Party in Bulgaria.

In this country, let it be added, was not the primary concern of the Western democracies is a distant aspiration. The real concern was with Poland and above all, the fear that the methods being used in Bulgaria might be a precedent for the forthcoming Polish election. The government in Warsaw is finding it difficult to get cooperation from the Polish people.

In the Russian sphere of influence in Eastern Europe and in the Balkans, the Russian attitude toward Poland and the U. S. seems to be true. It intends to call the political line for that part of the world. The little group of managers in the Kremlin may well be concerned that the U. S. will be able to call the line in the UNRRA meeting in London, the other day, Britain and the U. S. were joined by other powers to vote down Russia, Poland and Yugoslavia. The issue was whether relief should be denied to refugees who refuse to return to their respective homelands. There are moral lessons to be learned from our way of life. We ignore them at our peril.



"If you sell him so much as a frankfurter I'll have you arrested—he's been boozing for years that he's a strict vegetarian!"

## Trial Of Harry Thaw

By H. L. Golden  
(One of a series of articles on famous trials)

The legal battle surrounding the firing of Harry Kendall Thaw lasted more than five years. His mother, one of the richest women in the world, spent close to a million dollars for his defense and sacrificed even more than money in his successful effort to save him from the electric chair. She took the witness stand in his defense and in a successful effort to save him from the electric chair. She took the witness stand in his defense and in a successful effort to save him from the electric chair.

The trial was important because it established the use of the science of psychiatry in the American court room and because of the personalities involved. They included the play-boy Harry K. Thaw; a show girl, Evelyn Nesbit, whom artists called the most beautiful girl in the world; Thaw's mother, Mrs. William K. Thaw; and the man who was killed—Alfred G. Vanderbilt, Jr., the Standard Oil magnate. To this trial, which was fought by the most successful criminal lawyers in the American court room, were added the personalities involved. They included the play-boy Harry K. Thaw; a show girl, Evelyn Nesbit, whom artists called the most beautiful girl in the world; Thaw's mother, Mrs. William K. Thaw; and the man who was killed—Alfred G. Vanderbilt, Jr., the Standard Oil magnate.

When the case was finally given to the jury, it represented a case of hundreds of thousands of dollars, from a wealthy family. The jury was hopelessly deadlocked and when the members were polled, seven believed "guilty" and five voted for acquittal.

## People's Platform Welcome The Atom

By Lewis Averb Smith

The atomic bomb has stimulated the brains of a lot of people. In some instances it has so overstimulated the thinking mechanism as to result in rupturing the brain cells. There is no other way to account for some of the proposals made by well meaning people regarding the control of the bomb.

For instance, there are the 34 religious and educational leaders who asked President Truman to place the atomic bomb under the production of the atomic bomb, and to seek "commitments by all nations outlawing the new weapon—and also war."

Their request is evidence of the mental aberration of these pious phyllophilists. If dependence could be placed in such commitments, production of the atomic bomb would automatically become unnecessary. And what would be the result if we were to place our faith in such commitments? These timid humanitarian despisers of the declaration of "with satisfaction" the first use of the atomic bomb. Would they better if the bombardier had attached a "so sorry" note! Should our leaders apologize to us and to the Japanese for killing a lot of civilians at one time with an unorthodox atomic bomb? And should we sink a flotilla of battleships? What general will quarter his troops in the event of a nuclear war? A thoughtful politician will dare advocate depriving a million or more young men every year of liberty and pursuit of happiness!

A few hundred scientists now control the destiny of the world. There is an awful responsibility. We have no choice other than to support them. We have no choice but to further their knowledge. How foolish and futile are the efforts of those who in effect, ask the scientists to forget what they know!