

W. C. DOWD JR. J. E. DOWD HARRY S. ASHMORE
Publisher Editor Associate Editor
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A Strange Time For Apathy

TENTH District Republicans, organizing at Newton for the forthcoming Congressional race, gave forth the usual promise of a "vigorous, victorious campaign." But most politicians, we think, will conclude that these same Republicans, when they passed over all those prospective candidates who had been previously mentioned and plucked P. C. Burkholder of Mecklenburg out of a ten-gallon hat, were giving the election to the Democrats by default.

nominated without primary opposition, would have appeared a golden opportunity for a Republican resurgence. Certainly the death of Democratic candidates indicates lack of interest in the election, rather than unanimity of purpose.

A Parable For Our Time

It was a time of great plenty, but nevertheless it was a troubled time, and across the broad land the people stirred and they were restless. And those of the people who were organized, affiliated and amalgamated drew themselves together and went forth to do battle, bearing pennants with a strange device: "Raise Wages: Prevent Inflation."

And it came to pass that those who were organized, affiliated or amalgamated assembled without the gates and the ramparts of the citadels of Free Enterprise, and there was great consternation within. And the prophets within cried out, "Oh, these are evil days: those who are organized, affiliated or amalgamated are great enemies about and about, and some among the wise men said, "We shall lay down a precept, we shall issue an edict, we shall forbid organization, affiliation or amalgamation, and all our people shall be unorganized, unaffiliated and unamalgamated, and peace shall reign."

And in the city which was the capital of the land the wise men foregathered, and there was great excitement and loud cries and some among them wore sackcloth and ashes. And there was great argument about and about, and some among the wise men said, "We shall lay down a precept, we shall issue an edict, we shall forbid organization, affiliation or amalgamation, and all our people shall be unorganized, unaffiliated and unamalgamated, and peace shall reign."

And while the wise men debated this question, in a city a few leagues to the north, the organized, the affiliated and the amalgamated gathered before of a mighty citadel and, lo, it soon appeared that they desired not to enter the gates of the citadel but to prevent the unorganized, unaffiliated and unamalgamated from entering their citadel, from entering, And a prophet from within the gates appeared before a magistrate and obtained from him an edict directing that those without the gates should stand back, disperse, and disband. But the organized, affiliated and amalgamated heeded not this edict, and men on horseback appeared before them, warning them with a voice as loud as a thousand trumpets, and the horsemen rode through them and made a path for the unorganized, the unaffiliated and the unamalgamated, and there was wailing and moaning and gnashing of teeth.

Flying Dutchmen Of Highway 21

THE liquor business in Mecklenburg County is so extensive that it is obviously in the public interest to clarify the manner in which it is conducted. Judge Hasty of County Recorder's Court, in setting aside a day for legal argument on the question of how much drinking liquor can be hauled into the County on a single trip from the State, is certainly not wasting his Court's time.

course, and we don't suppose the slight delay inconvenienced the liquor wholesaler who sent them to South Carolina as his agents.

There is a question as to the workings of North Carolina's gallon law—whether it means a gallon per person or a gallon per automobile—and members of the Mecklenburg Bar, (the legal society, that is) have asked for an official opinion. If a court should rule that an automobile can carry legally as many gallons as it does passengers, the problem of transporting the stuff into Mecklenburg will be enormously simplified, and the resulting economy might even bring retail prices down within 100 per cent of ABC prices.

We are inclined to favor a liberal interpretation of the law. By increasing the payload of each bottle car, the ruling would cut down on the number of daily round trips to Fort Mill and would save a great deal of money and gas, and thereby reduce the overburdened highway. It would be pleasant, profitable employment to a great many citizens who would spend their days, six to a car, shuttling back and forth across the South Carolina line in order to legalize each six-gallon shipment. Transferring these Flying Dutchmen of Highway 21 from buses to private vehicles would greatly relieve the overcrowding on the common carriers, making room for citizens en route to Fort Mill to replenish their private stock, and for the minority of legitimate travelers.

There may be a few Mecklenburgers who think that such a court decision would only make liquor more readily available here. We doubt, however, if it could be any more available than it is now, since it is as near to you as your telephone. There is nothing in such a ruling that would make the liquor traffic any more open than it is now, and that should satisfy most of the Drys, who understand it is not interested in controlling liquor, only in keeping it out of sight.

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Another Voice

The Pot And The Kettle

JUDGE H. HOYLE SINK, who has heard 3,900 divorce cases during his 19 years as a Judge in North Carolina, thinks there ought to be a 5-day waiting period between application for a marriage license and its issuance.

courts are somewhat less than careful in investigating whether the residence requirements for South Carolinians seeking divorce in North Carolina are met, and whether the testimony before the courts is true.



People's Platform

A Trip To The Promised Land?

CHARLOTTE ACCORDING to your Mr. Burke Davis' recent articles in The News regarding us, a trip by Mr. Davis into "the promised land" of Wet counties in the Eastern North Carolina, it seems that the glowing reports brought back by him "that the half has not been told"—that bootlegging has been eliminated, the people of those counties are drinking themselves into prosperity with reduced taxes, that Dix Hill has just about kicked up and drunkers practically eliminated, and the millennium is sight.

Who's Crowding?

NEGROES of Charlotte are getting tired of being red on by people like F. B. Hickman. The Negroes of Charlotte are getting tired of being red on by people like F. B. Hickman. The Negroes of Charlotte are getting tired of being red on by people like F. B. Hickman.

Not Quick, Not Cheap

MR. JIM MARSHALL of the Charlotte Planning Board was kind enough to send me the story which was written by Mr. Burke Davis. The Charlotte News special writer, which appeared in your Feb. 28, 1946, issue, concerning the Charlotte Traffic Survey report which was prepared by the writer.

Dr. Pearson's Atomic Scientists Prefer Navy To Army

ATOMIC scientists pay tribute to the Navy as compared with the Army when it comes to atomic-bomb cooperation. They say Admiral William Blandy and his naval officers are working out a fairly good test of the A-bomb.

Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON A LONG LAST, it is good to report that the Food Front action program is getting going. Herbert Hoover is on his way to Europe to do the kind of expedition that should have been made to do six months ago. And Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson has begun to send some of the larger supplies of meat and fats for Europe.

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WASHINGTON While voluntary savings in food can mean a great deal, there is another factor in relation to our supply which is even more important. If the Government got behind and pushed, using wartime powers, the amount of acreage planted in wheat could be greatly increased, it is believed, although only five weeks remain in which to plan a campaign.

Samuel Grafton

Rule By Coalition

NEW YORK DON'T look now, but something very peculiar is going on in the State of New Jersey. A coalition of Republicans and Southern Democrats is becoming a formal organization. Several of the party leaders of both parties, sitting down together last Wednesday morning at which might be called a "policy meeting" to decide on how to curtail price controls, and about 25 additional representatives sent word to the chairman, Mr. Grafton, asking to be considered present.

Tokyo Want Ad

TOKYO JAPAN WE are a bunch of tired and disgusted Navy men who have been eligible for discharge quite a while now, but who are still sitting in the land of no America. And while at first the bi-partisan bloc was only a state of mind, now it is a self-conscious organization.

Another Voice

THE People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mention it. Communications should be less than 300 words, typewritten if possible, and on only one side of the paper. Label and obscenity will be deleted. No return address is required. Each letter must be signed, although, in exceptional cases and upon request, we will withhold the writer's name.—Editors, The News.

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