

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

THOMAS L. ROBINSON, Publisher
J. B. DOWD, General Manager
R. C. O'NEILL, Executive Editor
G. A. MCKINNEY, Editor

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U. S. STAKE IN FOREIGN AID

It has been the fashion recently to decry the folly of further financial aid to Britain. Most of the self-appointed "experts" on this side of the Atlantic have viewed with an alarm approaching hysteria the thought of continuing to subsidize foreign governments, especially Great Britain.

There are two sides to every question, of course, and it is time that the other side is being presented. Every reader of The News who has any interest whatsoever in the approaching dollar crisis talks in Washington should take a few minutes to read "Day of Reckoning" by Joseph C. Hirsch, chief of the Washington bureau of the Christian Science Monitor, reprinted elsewhere on this page.

For 35 years, Mr. Hirsch points out, the U. S. has been aiding foreign governments one way or another. These loans, grants and subsidies add up to several billions a year, and have made it possible for those foreign nations, principally Great Britain,

to buy products from U. S. farms and industries that they would not have been able to buy otherwise.

For instance, a great proportion of Marshall Plan funds have been used by the recipients to purchase food and manufactured articles in this country; and no one can estimate just how much this foreign trade contributed to keeping our own economy on an even keel during the postwar readjustment period.

In other words, the extending of dollar credits to foreign nations has been an indirect way of subsidizing our own economy. It may have enabled foreign nations to live beyond their income; but it has permitted the U. S. to sell surplus goods which otherwise would have glutted our markets unless destroyed.

It is entirely appropriate to re-examine the whole question of foreign aid; but we must remember that the U. S. has a sizeable stake in the business.

VAUGHAN KEEPS HIS JOB

It is not quite clear, from the testimony so far, whether "Major Gen. Harry Vaughan" is an ingenious schemer or an ingenious fool. No one has proved that he violated any law, no one has established that he plotted personally from the favors he dispensed from his high White House position.

The Hays subcommittee is still at work and may turn up something yet. But for the time being the only certainties in the Vaughan investigation are (1) that he has brought considerable embarrassment to his cronies, President Truman, so much so that the President would not have been willing to assign him to other duty; and (2) that he has disgraced the uniform he wears.

Mr. Truman told newspapermen, however, that he would keep his loyal, energetic military aide. The investigation was being held at the Capitol, and he didn't propose to continue it at the White House.

AN OVERDUE IMPROVEMENT

A NEW applicant at North Carolina's Employment Security Commission offices will find the business of looking for a job or getting unemployment compensation a lot simpler than it used to be. At that time in unemployed persons seeking both a job and emergency funds found that it was almost worth a day's wages to go through the employment-unemployment maze.

The office was split into two parts—one for getting a job, the other for applying for compensation. You faced two interviews and much repetition.

Now, under an integration program went into effect throughout the State's offices. From now on one interviewer will handle both matters of employment and unemployment.

WORLD WITHOUT DRUMS

ONCE, while employed as a music critic in London, George Bernard Shaw wrote sharply:

"I would give anything to play the drum."

We have just discovered Mr. Shaw's little fable and, truly, there arises within us some questioning of the peace-loving aims of Ayn Rand, Lawrence who would chuck it all for the facility of beating a sheepskin stretched across an empty pot.

There are many drums and drums of a symphonic stickman and the frenetic assassination of Gene Krupa and, eye, even the rattled rappings of Roy Scoots.

From The St. Louis Globe-Democrat

FOR A RESEARCH 'CHEST'

FROM Dr. Harry M. Weaver, research director of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, comes a sensible opinion many persons have held but have hesitated to voice. He thinks the state campaign to raise funds for the polio battle has gone too far; that false rumors about the disease may be doing more harm than the disease itself. Among other discoveries the funds have been made and it is known there are harmless types of polio and thousands of persons may have had it without ever knowing it. But parents still are terrified at the mention of the disease.

The polio campaign has been frankly directed at the heart-strings, and the monetary response has been tremendous. It has been so great, in fact, there are indications it has been draining funds from other research work equally valuable and of illustration is the dismal failure last year of the newly-formed Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation. Arthritis and rheumatism fever claim many times the number of polio victims. Yet when it sought to raise \$2,000,000, principally for mass production of a promising new anti-arthritis hormone, it collected only \$222,000. In all drives over the nation, the public has been asked for each case of polio and about three cents for each case of rheumatic disease.

The competition for today's charity dollar is both fierce and unfair. The organizations within the past several weeks—and that's not counting the hundreds of public relations talent get the lion's share. This not only entails excessive administrative and fund-raising expenses, but appertains the

Through it all our contempt for things pertinent has come unheeded.

We would sooner court insanity with the double-edged of an olive twist our lips than risk the aimless twiddling of a rummy-headed cylinder.

Kettie-drum, marm drum, base-drum, side-drum, bongos—we will have none, thank you. No pistol-rimed youngsters whamming away, next door, no Shelby Mearns' marm drums and drums, no orchestra, no grave-faced symphonists waiting like Zeus to sound a crack of fateful thunder.

Ah, peaceful world...

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'But Still In Matters Vegetable, Animal, And Mineral, I Am The Very Model Of A Modern Major-General'



Battle Of The Cannibals

The Death Of A Zinnia

(From The Louisville Courier-Journal)

A SEVERAL readers of our editorial columns, of whom there are still a few, may remember that a few weeks back we found it necessary to uphold the New York Herald Tribune on the subject of the zinnia. Our colleagues on this admirable journal had been, and still are, under sustained attack for lacking the bold position that the zinnia is an obnoxious vegetable growth unworthy to be called a flower. We too have had our share of criticism for saying that we agreed. Without comment therefore we reprint below the observations of Mr. Frank Sullivan, contributor to the Interstate Review, horticultural paper to The Herald Tribune—Editor.

To The New York Herald Tribune:

WITH the dollar crisis and the Vaughan crisis and so many other crises pressing for attention I do not want to extend discussion of the zinnia controversy, yet I have a contribution to make which may be of interest to the zinniaists J. W. Johnson and Joe. Heretofore I had a zinnia in my garden this summer that ate other flowers, and not only other flowers but other zinnias, including its own young. It was a burly thing, in color a kind of C. Adams magenta, and it stood out in its corner of the garden because no other flowers were near it. And a good reason why, as I discovered to my consternation one day, was that it ate its own young.

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People's Platform

Looking At Gov. Scott

WABEBOBO

Editors, The News:

I read the controversy between Gov. W. Kerr Scott and Kerr Craig Ramsey of Salisbury. I was very much impressed with the editorial written in your Aug. 30 issue—so much so that I was prompted to write the attached piece which, if you consider in order to print and write the space, you have my permission to do so.

—J. M. AUSTIN.

Looking Through The Window

Gov. W. Kerr Scott

Once I approved of some of the things you did do; now I am not so sure.

"Twice you made successful campaigns with pride; now some of your deeds are stabbing you in the back."

If you continue the destructiveness as you have recently in the past, the fruits of your labor will decay at last.

If there is anything you can do for the good of the state, for the people's sake do it now, before it is too late.

Listen to others' opinions; wrap up your troubles and pack them on the shelf; and try to do something for the good of our state and yourself.

To make your efforts productive and your administration rare, you should solicit the co-operation of all citizens of our state.

On Give-Away Programs

CHARLOTTE

Editors, The News:

I have performed a signal public service

J. with his (New York Times) commenting of the "Issues in Give-Away Ruling," from which may I quote:

"Although a largely new section of the criminal code makes it illegal to broadcast a lottery, it does not take compliance with the nature of the nature of the radio where nothing of tangible value passes between a contest participant and a contest sponsor."

Writer's discontent with the give-away programs evolves from the fact that during them nothing of value passes between the broadcaster and the radio audience.

Mr. Coud notes that, at the time the give-away programs were approved by the FCC, the one dissenting vote was cast by the lone woman member of the commission. This gives rise to the suspicion that we do not yet have sufficient high opinion officials in these hot so U. S.

—A. H. BARRETT.

Washington Merry-Go-Round

(Note—While Drew Pearson is on vacation, the Washington Merry-Go-Round is being run by his aid person, Robert R. Allen-Editor, The News.)

WASHINGTON

BRITISH-AMERICAN differences aren't the only strained relations in the White House.

Behind the scenes, a trouble-breeding situation has developed with regard to the troublesome South American debt to develop the debt, untrapped by the dollar with reverse English.

The British don't want the loan.

They holdy charge that the Export-Import Bank is trying to "blacklist" them into taking a \$500,000,000 loan they don't want.

This is the situation's story:

British ones and the \$500 million dollars to U. S. firms and banks for purchases of equipment and other supplies in the past year. It is conceded payments have been slow.

The British agree to take the \$500 million dollar loan as a result of a very heavy decrease in exports to the U. S.

But the British say they can't get the money to develop the vast, untapped resources of Minas Gerais, they can quickly expand their economy to meet their commercial needs.

That such a loan fits squarely with President Truman's "point four" program.

But the Export-Import Bank is refusing to consider this proposal until Brazil agrees to take the \$500,000,000 loan.

In Rio de Janeiro, this has led to bitter feeling. Critics of "unimpaired" American "point four" money have been tossed around. In Washington, Ambassador Nabuco is more polite and discreet. But no bones are being hidden from the fact that a group of New York bankers and export firms are behind the insistence on the loan.

Specifically, it is claimed that the Commerce & Industry Association of New York has pressured the Export-Import

Bank into demanding that Brazil sign up for the \$500,000,000 loan in order to pay its international debts.

The Brazilians are hinting President Dutra may take the issue directly to President Truman.

NOTES—Minas Gerais means "general mines" or "abundant minerals." The state is the richest in Brazil and the most powerful politically, owing to its great wealth. The state has a large population and a large area.

Minas Gerais has been submitted a special report. Dr. Barbosa Mello, was the state's minister of commerce and industry.

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—A. H. BARRETT.

Peace, It's Wonderful!

A long opening battle drama went practically unnoticed at the opening banquet of the American Legion convention in Philadelphia.

The old days of the Roosevelt Cabinet embraced and made up.

They are Defense Secretary Louis Johnson and former Secretary of War Harry Woodring.

Johnson was Woodring's assistant secretary, and the two men differed both on permanent and intervention in the war. Johnson favored both; Woodring, a Kansas, was opposed.

Woodring was dropped; Johnson, later, on the insistence of Secretary of War Henry Stimson, was named his own associate.

After Johnson's appointment as Defense Secretary, newsman, recalling the Woodring feud, asked the latter for a statement. The reporters expected a blast. Instead, Wood-

Joseph C. Hirsch

Day Of Reckoning

(In The Christian Science Monitor)

WASHINGTON

SO far, the British currency "crisis" has been reported as a day of reckoning in terms of a day of reckoning on the far side of the Atlantic.

But much more than that, it will be a day of reckoning on the far side of the Atlantic.

The estimates it may be extremely painful.

But this is going to involve a day of reckoning for Americans too, and it would be well for us to think about our own side of the Atlantic.

In this connection the most relevant fact is that ever since 1914 the United States has, in effect, been giving away a stable quantity of its goods.

And I usually think of what has happened in terms of loans, or grants, or subsidies, or something like that.

But the loans and grants and subsidies have all been making it possible for Europeans, particularly the British, to buy more American goods than they could buy otherwise.

To be factual about it, even if words have unpleasant sound, the United States has been subsidizing a surplus of its exports over its imports.

It has been doing this since the end of the first world war. It has been doing it in one way or another ever since.

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