THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

THOMAS L. ROBINSON.....Publisher
J. E. DOWD.....General Manager
B. S. GRIFFITH.....Executive Editor
C. A. McKNIGHT.....Editor

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1951

WHITHER NOW, MR. BYRNES?

MOST of the political soothsayers are in agreement on one thing, at least. The 1952 Southern revolt against Mr. Truman, if it occurs, will carry more weight and influence and will be conducted with greater dignity than the abortive States Rights movement of 1948.

The experts have had a field day since South Carolina's chief executive, James F. Byrnes, laid down his cold ultimatum to Mr. Truman at the Gatlinburg conference of the nation's governors. Mr. Byrnes pledged his opposition if Mr. Truman seeks nomination on the Democratic ticket. He added that Senator Harry F. Byrd of Virginia or Senator Richard Russell of Georgia would make a satisfactory Democratic nominee.

Obviously Mr. Byrnes doesn't hope to bulldoze the 1952 Democratic convention into rejecting Mr. Truman and accepting Mr. Byrd or Mr. Russell. As long as the simple majority rule holds at the convention (and there apparently is no chance that the two-thirds rule will be restored), Mr. Truman can have the nomination if he desires it. Mr. Byrnes knows that fully as well as Mr. Truman.

What the South Carolinian and his followers are trying to do is to strike fear in Mr. Truman's heart. Without actually promising to bolt the Democratic ticket and support a Republican, they imply that they might be reduced to such straits. And in a close election such as we might have in 1952, any considerable defection among Southern states would bring defeat to the Democratic standard bearer.

By that maneuver, the Byrnes-Byrd-Russell coalition will seek to persuade the national Democratic Party that another candidate, more acceptable than Mr. Truman, must be nominated. That candidate will hardly be a Southerner. But he might well be a man like Senator Paul Douglas of Illinois, for instance, who balances his theoretical liberalism with a sound approach to national economic problems.

The weakest segment in this seemingly solid Dixie front against Mr. Truman is the attitude of Southern Congressmen. Having served in both the House and the Senate, Mr. Byrnes well knows what power Congressional committee chairmen wield over legislation. Because of their long tenure in office, Southerners hold more than their proportionate share of chairmanships. Proof, if needed, is afforded by the successful blocking of every civil rights measure that the South is supposed to be concerned about.

If Mr. Byrnes expects to bolt the party and lead the South in support of the Republican nominee, he will get little help from many Southern Congressmen, who would stand to lose their chairmanships in a GOP-dominated Congress.

Perhaps he can pull it off, even so. Perhaps, instead of supporting the Republican ticket, he may lead a new and much more influential States Rights movement.

In any event, the whole proceeding leaves us slightly bewildered. Southern Democratics apparently favor the Democratic Administration's foreign policy. They have successfully blocked or reshaped to suit their own desires, most every major piece of domestic legislation that displeased them. They're in the saddle in the U. S. Congress, more influential than at any time in modern political history, and there is no likelihood that they will lose their power so long as there is a Democratic Party majority in Congress.

Let us hope that Mr. Byrnes will go beyond his Gatlinburg pronouncement, and tell us how he hopes to improve the South's fortunes.

TIME HAS RUN OUT FOR THE REDS

IN ANY situation where two opponents are maneuvering for advantage, it is highly risky to try to interpret the various moves. Nonetheless, there is good reason now to believe that the Korean truce talks will be resumed and, more important, that they will result in an armistice.

Several factors at play in the situation give rise to the hope.

It has been apparent from the first that the Chinese Communists had a reason for insisting that the truce talks agenda include such non-related issues as the control of Formosa and admission of Red China to the U. N. Such tactics are used in any kind of trading. The smart trader asks for more than he hopes to get, then settles for less.

The Communists hoped, in return for giving up their original terms, to win U. N. acceptance of the 38th Parallel as the middle line of a neutral zone. And as long as there was any hope of winning this point, they delayed the truce talks by an assortment of tricks and ruses.

General Matthew B. Ridgway has stood firm on this question. His troops have been on the offensive, hacking out new gains north of the old battle line. Each week of the truce stalemate has placed the Communists in a less favorable bargaining position.

So their commander now proposes that the cease-fire talks begin again, near Panmunjom. Ridgway replied that a site in the "immediate vicinity" of Panmunjom would satisfy the "fundamental condition of equality of movement and control". His liaison officers are to meet the Communists tonight to work out details for resuming the talks.

The Communists cannot but have noted the increasingly bold talk from American military and atomic experts. They have been forewarned that the U. S. now possesses formidable new weapons that can be effectively used on the battlefield, without killing and maiming civilians in a new Hiroshima. Although the direct threat to use them in Korea has not yet been made, the Communists may read between the lines.

It is our opinion that the fear of defeat has prompted this latest Communist proposal for a renewal of the truce talks. Time has already run out for a Communist victory in Korea. The enemy knows that the free world is growing stronger by the day, and will not tolerate forever a military stalemate that is costing the lives of free men.

HALF A LOAF . . .

A NEW BILL born out of the latest phase of the RFC inquiry would make it illegal for any official of a national political party to accept fees or other benefits for negotiating with Federal agencies.

In the words of Senator McCarran, the measure will "take the profit out of political influence". He calls it "must" legislation, says Congress should pass it before it goes home.

We quite agree. But we wonder if the bill goes far enough. Shouldn't it also make it illegal for anyone to give fees or other benefits to national political party officials?

By our standards, the briber is as much to blame as the person who accepts a bribe. And in the vicious practices of the political influence system, it is just as reprehensible to give paid vacations or expensive cameras or cash as it is to receive them.

Half a loaf may be better than none, but it is still not the equivalent of a full loaf. The law will do more good if it is rewritten to include those who hand out the favors.

WELCOME TO A LADY

THE American people have come a long way since 1775.

The British royalty is no longer an institution against which tea parties are staged, or declarations signed and hurried off to Philadelphia.

Matter of fact, the American people are quite fond of the British ruling family: viz., their preoccupation with Edward, Prince of Wales, when that dashing young gentleman was setting tongues a-wag with his pre-monarchial antics. When King George VI and his friendly wife, Queen Elizabeth, visited the United States in 1939, they took the spotlight of public attention away from their host, President Roosevelt, no mean feat for any visiting dignitary, king or commoner.

And now comes another visit from British royalty. Princess Elizabeth and her husband, Prince Philip, have landed in Canada on a good will tour. They will visit Washington later.

Every inch a lady, genteel and genuine, Elizabeth has more friends and admirers this side the Atlantic than she knows about. Her visit will give the American people an opportunity to display their admiration for the plucky British and their affection for the family that has upheld the highest traditions of royalty during the ups and downs of a critical period in world history.

So, welcome, Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip. May your visit be a pleasant one.

From The Asheville Citizen

'INTO THE FILE CASE YONDER'

RECENTLY the Air Force let a contract numbered (01-600) 52-2274.

The contract was based on requisition number LB 52-107.

The provision for payment bore special allotment number 5723400 266-1443 P443-09 S01-605 and the shipper was ordered to designate his shipment AF 1799 LO (01-600) 52-2274.

To make a long story short (though that is not what the Air Force was doing) the contract consisted of 20 clauses in fine print with a four-page set of "additional general provisions" dealing with contract termination, patent indemnity, notice to the government of labor disputes, and the loading, bracing and blocking of freight cars.

The order?

The contract called for delivery of one 50-cent copy of the booklet, "Economic Policies for National Defense".

How bureaucratic can you get?

Panmunjom, proposed site of UN-Red talks, is well selected. That name looks like Sanskrit for pandemonium.

It would be nice if OPS could enforce slaughter quotas on U. S. highways.—*Memphis Press-Scimitar.*

Wasn't There A Definite Appointment?

The Stars Led The Way

A Lesson For The Teacher

By JULIA WOODSON
(In North Carolina Education)

HAVING taught the first grade a number of years, I am one of those teachers who had come to believe that she could just about tell how a little child feels and thinks, just what he can and cannot understand. When I learned, therefore, that our science supervisor was disappointed to find that our third graders had not been adequately introduced to "pictures in the sky" in the first grade, I at once began to defend my stand.

I challenged our supervisor: "You just come in and try to teach the stars to first graders. Why, they have difficulty finding a word in a group of words, much less a star group among millions of stars. There are so many things we can teach the children within their understanding that it seems a waste of time to teach the stars. And, anyway, how can we really teach the stars when we have the children in the daytime and our sun is the only star we have to work with them." I blew off steam and our supervisor very tactfully listened. Oh, yeah, I knew what I knew!

Then I went back to my room. Really, I hadn't tried to teach the stars—and I knew I should see if children could learn such things before saying they couldn't—saying it so positively!

I Decided To Try

I PREPARED two star charts. One showed the big and little dippers with emphasis on the North Star. One showed Orion. I presented the charts by telling legendary stories concerning the star groups. I told the children where and when they could find them in the sky. And I thought, "My job is done. This will be the end of it. This will prove I am right.

How little did I know just what it would prove!

A few days later a little girl came to school and her first words were, "Miss Woodson, did you see Orion last night? Wasn't he beautiful! Mother and I were walking home from church and I looked up and there he was." Another child said, "I saw a little dipper but it didn't look like the one on our chart. What was that? Here was a child who not only could find a star group in the sky but could recognize that while looking like a little dipper it was not THE little dipper. And all I had done was to show a picture and tell a story.

Well, here was a question to answer. What could I do with it? I said, "Tonight I'll go out and find your little dipper and tomorrow we'll make its picture and tell its story." What I really meant was, "This afternoon I'll find a book about stars and I'll learn about them so that I can answer your questions intelligently, and so that I can look at the stars with more understanding." I did just that—bought several books about the stars, hoping to learn with the children the things I could have learned as a child. (Did you ever do a trick like this?)

A few days later I was confronted with this question. "Miss Woodson, what makes the moon and stars stay up there?" So, again, as is getting to be habit with me, home I went to study an intelligent answer to satisfy a first grader's curiosity concerning this world of ours.

From One Thing To Another

THE stars led to our day-time star, the sun; the sun to heat; heat to machines; machines to general living, including food, plants, clothes, animals, weather, air, and we're still going. Where we'll end I do not know, but this I know: I am a much wiser teacher since teaching the stars—I who knew for sure what a first-grader could and could not learn!

Our room is now full of materials and equipment with which we have experimented, such as an electric stove, pans, a whistling kettle, dry cells, winding toys, simple machines, complicated machines, building sets, and stories, songs, and poems about our experiments. We are building our own little science library. We have used several films and filmstrips connected with our work from our audio-visual education department.

Personalities Developed

WITHOUT realizing it, through the making of experience charts and the writing of experiments, the creative writing of our play, songs, poems, and the reading of library materials for contributions to the work, children who were not reading began to read; children uninterested in the basal type stories of children and pets found an interest in reading; phonics began to have meaning; the ability to compose and write stories began to develop. Numbers became fun as we learned to read the thermometer, to make weather calendars, to measure with the carpenter's rule which could stretch and stretch, to weigh and measure other things, to make up number games to put on our magnetic fish. We learned to make pictures tell stories as we illustrated our charts, and songs. Probably that which pleased me most as a teacher was to see personalities develop as through the freedom of experimentation timid children lost themselves in the doing of the experiments and came to express their thoughts and to think for themselves independently.

I know now that the teaching of the stars was not a waste of time. It laid a foundation for further understanding in the field of science. It created interest in reading, writing, language, and numbers.

Quote, Unquote

For one mean mother-in-law, there are ten thousand wonderful women being real mothers to their in-law sons and daughters. For one talkative barber, there are at least hundreds who have very little conversation. For one stingy Scotchman, there are a —well dozens who open their purses as easily as anybody else. And for every cold-hearted banker, there is another who says no in a sympathetic tone of voice. —**KINGSPORT (Tenn.) TIMES.**

* * *

Returning from a geology field trip to Colorado, Renick Marsh was delighted to learn from a large sign at the outskirts of town that Utopia College is at Eureka. Couldn't be at a better place. —**LEXINGTON (Ky.) LEADER.**

* * *

A conscience is something which won't permit a person to put a new coat of paint on a worn out car and park it in front of a tobacco warehouse with a FOR SALE sign plastered on the windshield. —**OMEGA (Ga.) NEWS.**

RFC Issue Peanuts Compared With Sen. Kerr's FPC Deal

By JOSEPH ALSOP

WASHINGTON

IN THE RFC-Bill Boyle-Lithefold investigations, Congress has been rooting for peanuts as usual, while ignoring the giant Idaho potatoes. RFC loans are small stuff in the business-politics-government game. The big stakes are Government decisions—often obscure decisions—which transform the profit pictures of whole industries, and cost or save the American people quite literally billions of dollars.

This reporter has been conducting a necessarily somewhat stringhalted private inquiry into what has been happening to the big stakes in the Truman Administration. The fairly hair-raising results are typified by the story of how the Federal Power Commission has been quietly captured by the industries it is supposed to regulate.

If any one man can claim to be the general of the long fight to take over the Power Commission, with its immense authority over electric power and natural gas, that men is Sen. Robert S. Kerr of Oklahoma. Senator Kerr, a pious man who teaches Sunday school, is said to have made his first big step upwards on life's ladder by getting permission for the Phillips Petroleum Co. to drill oil wells on the lawn of the Oklahoma state capitol. From this promising beginning, he has never looked back, becoming many times a millionaire, the owner of vast oil and gas properties of his own, his state's Governor, then its Senator, and the close crony of the President of the United States.

While still Governor, Kerr scored his first triumph, persuading President Truman to give a vacant place on the Commission to the bleary Harrington Wimberly, manager of a Kerr political campaign. Then another place on the Commission opened, and Kerr got that one for another friend of his, Burton Balling, who used to be known around the Commission as "the gas lobbyist." Balling, Wimberly and Smith briefly added up to a Power Commission majority. But the incorruptible and determined Commission Chairman, Leland Olds, organized protest deputations to the White House, and President Truman recalled Balling's nomination from the Senate before he could be confirmed.

The temporary setback did not discourage Senator Kerr. Olds' term as Power Commission chairman expired, and his renomination had to be approved. Kerr, now transferred to the Senate's larger sphere, organized an intense attack on Olds as a sinister Socialist, offering in evidence the more foolish utterances indulged in by Olds as a very young, excessively idealistic Congregational minister. Outraged by the threat to free enterprise, the Senate rejected Olds. Meanwhile the Oklahoma Senator also offered the Kerr Bill, giving the natural gas producers legal protection against Power Commission rate-making.

DOUGLAS OPPOSED BILL

Initially, the Kerr Bill was supported by the Senate majority leader, and was authoritatively said to have White House approval. Unfortunately, Sen. Paul Douglas of Illinois stirred up an inconvenient row on behalf of the gas consumers in great urban centers, whose gas prices were about to be inflated. The President then sent the Kerr Bill back to the Senate with a pious veto, but added, as an after-thought, the nomination of his poker-crony, former Gov. Mon C. Wallgren of Washington, to succeed Olds on the Power Commission.

Wallgren is a poorer than average member of the Fair Deal's Elks bar set. His record is dubious, his intellect feeble; and in his background loom such peculiar characters as the West Coast fishmonger-tycoon, Nick Bez, and the Seattle big operator, Saul Haas. The Senate, which had been unable to stomach Olds, and had found Wallgren too second rate for the National Security Resources Board, now confirmed Wallgren for the Power Commission with alacrity and delight. According to report, Senator Douglas remarked that it was like hiring a nurse to murder the baby.

At any rate, Wallgren gave Kerr what he wanted, control of the Power Commission. In a case started by Kerr's friends, the Phillips Petroleum Co., the Wallgrenized Commission immediately reversal itself, briskly enacting the vetoed Kerr bill by simple administrative ruling. What the President may have thought of the curious spectacle of his own veto being over-ridden by his own appointee, history does not record, presumably he was consoled by the large profits promised by the Phillips case ruling to Senator Kerr and all the other gas producers.

The many tens, even hundreds of millions of profits for the owners of natural gas property are also added costs, of course, for the ordinary citizen-gas consumer. But the story does not end there, by any means. The stakes in this Power Commission struggle are really almost incalculable, as will be shown in a further report.

Public Health Will Improve As More Get Moretti Cure

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK

IT is possible to find a curious public-health aspect in the recent murder of Willie Moretti by his criminal colleagues, and in the general air of distrust of one hoodlum for the other.

The murders of Bugsy Siegel, the Binaggio boys, and sundry other minor chieftains would indicate that the house that Frankie built is in need of drastic repair. That is good for the nation as a whole, if only because it indicates that the recent crackdowns on crime are beginning to divide the ranks of the hoodlums. They had been semi-respectable much too long.

SINGING DISCOURAGED

The neatness seems to be disappearing. Best hazard on the slaying of Moretti was that his associates were afraid he would sing loud and clear in upcoming investigations of graft and general corruption. It was hinted that poor, departed Will had once acquired a case of what the boys call Big Casino, which ended in the same paresis that finished Al Capone. Paresis has a tendency to unhinge both tongue and mind, which was amply illustrated last year when Willie popped his yap before the Kefauver Committee. Rather than risk another session of Willie's garrulousness, the crime moguls sent four hard guys with guts to forever quell his loquaciousness.

This appears to make the potished hoodlums who have achieved semi-respectability and an air of good citizenship nervous.

Now they say they fear a wholesale series of gang slayings, like in the olden days, and I figure that's fine. When distrust within the ranks mounts so high that the boys are gunning each other, the resultant confusion is apt to breed some startling revelations as to just who was mixed up with whom, and for how much. Even if nothing of lasting importance develops, at least the breakup of a well-oiled and smoothly operating criminal organization of crime will have been temporarily disrupted.

And a few of the old rats, grown fat and suave and sleek, will suddenly assume their old position in the public eye as what they are—rat rats that got knuckles and big racing franchises and hauling contracts and beer factories and bottling works and whisky monopolies and political protection with a gun and brass knuckles and lit cigars to burn the feet of former friends.

I say that "fear" of a general gang war is the wrong word. I think a gang war would be just dandy, and the more who get it behind the ear the merrier. Weep not for Willie nor for any who collect the big one. They've had it coming, all of them, ever since they broke into big business with the butt of a gun.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Funny Man Allen Sure Ike Will Run

WASHINGTON

GEORGE ALLEN, the former White House jester, is now about the closest man to General Eisenhower. It was Allen who acted as liaison between Truman and Eisenhower to make sure Ike didn't get into the race as a Democrat in 1948.

Today, Allen, though a Mississippi Democrat, says that Ike is sure to run as a Republican.

Talking to a friend recently, Allen predicted:

"What Ike will do will be exactly what Roosevelt did at Chicago in 1932. He'll hop on a plane and fly straight to the convention."

"How's he going to fly from Paris to Chicago when he's under orders from his commander-in-chief to do a job in Paris?" asked the friend.

"Don't be foolish," shot back the former White House jester, "What's the commander-in-chief going to do about it?"

Censorship

INSIDE fact about the President's long press conference lecture about protecting U. S. secrets was that his immediate advisers didn't want him to make it. They knew public reaction would be bad.

However, the Defense Dept., Central Intelligence Agency, and others in charge of military secrets urged the President not only to issue his censorship order but back it up—in part to keep the military from setting U. S. policy.

Time after time, high generals or admirals have barged in on civilian policy or disclosed secrets which caused serious damage.

Most important was the release of the Smythe Report on atomic energy by Gen. Leslie Groves. A few hours after the Report was sent to several thousand newspapers, horrified scientists protested to the Army that the Report contained vital secrets by which an astute scientist could piece together the know-how for making the A-bomb. Hurriedly, Groves demanded that the Report be recalled.

"That," replied a member of his staff, "would be like trying to put an egg back into a chicken."

Newsmen, not being technicians, had no way of knowing the significance of the Smythe Report's complicated wording.

Another military boner which played into Moscow's hands was the statement by Gen. Orvil Anderson, commander of the Air War College at Montgomery, Ala., that the United States wanted a preventative war. It was necessary for the Air Force to relieve General Anderson in order to demonstrate this was not our real foreign policy.

Note—On Mr. Truman's desk this Summer was one of our newest secret weapons, a guided missile. Proudly he demonstrated it to many callers, told about its accuracy against enemy planes. No restriction of secrecy was placed upon those with whom he talked.

Income Tax Probe

ALERT Sen. Richard Nixon of California had a lot to do, backstage, with the cleanup of the income tax mess in San Francisco.

Some time ago he received letters from those close to the Federal grand jury which was trying to investigate the long-rumored Internal Revenue scandal but which was suddenly called off by U. S. Judge Lewis E. Goodman.

At that time, young Assistant U. S. Attorney Charles O'Gara was endeavoring to present evidence of income tax irregularities to the grand jury. But suddenly the probe was stopped by Judge Goodman, who, incidentally, had been appointed to the bench on the recommendation of ex-Sen. Sheridan Downey. Collector of Internal Revenue Smythe, now under investigation, was Downey's campaign manager.

To remedy the situation, Senator Nixon introduced a bill which, if passed, will permit grand juries to hire counsel of their own and dig into a smelly situation—regardless of whether the U. S. attorney or the judge gives the green light.

Nixon also phoned the Justice Dept. in Washington to inquire about young O'Gara, the Assistant U. S. Attorney who was pushing the tax probe.

'He's a psychopath," was the reply.

In the end, however, O'Gara won out. He was brought to Washington as a witness before Senator Williams' income tax committee, while many of the tax collectors in San Francisco he was gunning for have now been removed.

Washington Pipeline

EX-SECRETARY of War Robert Patterson has notified the Senate Judiciary Committee that he has withdrawn his endorsement of Miss Frieda Hennock to be a U. S. judge. Since Patterson once sat on the U. S. Court of Appeals, his word counts heavily with the Senators. He informed them that when he originally endorsed Miss Hennock, he had not realized all the facts now brought out by the New York Bar Association.