

Warren Selection Preceded
By Strange Circumstances
By MARQUIS CHILDS

Thar's Gold In Them Hills

A FINAL WORD ON THE BOND ISSUES

IN THIS FINAL editorial on tomorrow's bond election, we would like to analyze two arguments against the \$50 million bond issue for schools that are sometimes heard locally.

It is said that the providing of school buildings should be a local responsibility, and that the State of North Carolina should limit its role in public education to the operation, costs of the schools. A corollary to that argument is that the more populous counties, like Mecklenburg, pay in taxes far more than they ever get back from the state; hence they should resist the invasion by the state into areas of local responsibility.

We must confess some sympathy with the first argument. Four years ago when the first state bond issue for school buildings was before the people, we made that very point. But the people, deciding the question by democratic processes, approved overwhelmingly the participation of the state in the school building program. And the 1953 General Assembly, in authorizing tomorrow's election, reaffirmed that decision.

Since there has been no fundamental change in the public education picture since 1948, it would be petty and picaresque to keep harping on the fact that the emergency is over and the backlog of school building needs has been cleared up, the question should be raised again.

FOOTNOTE ON A JUDGESHIP

HAVING had our say on the appointment of Gov. Earl Warren as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, we do not intend to belabor the point that it was a political move. Nonetheless, we would set this footnote to what has been said on the topic before.

It should be understood, first of all, that the President of the United States is often a prisoner of the political system. If he wants to stay in office and keep his party in power, he has to play the political game shrewdly, with an eye to the future. In making appointments, he cannot always observe the high standard laid down in the Mohammedan book of books, the Koran: "A ruler who appoints as judges men who are not in his dominions another man better qualified for it sits against God and against the State."

Even so, for as significant a post as justice of the Supreme Court, prior experience on the bench would seem to be almost a mandatory qualification for at least a majority of the justices. Yet the hard truth is

AT 17 MONTHS, THE WORLD IS HIS OYSTER

THERE is no good substitute for the old cliché, so we shall simply repeat that "travel is broadening" and hasten on to make the point that the old saw applies particularly to a young man, say, 17 months.

A fellow of such an age, when he takes an extended vacation, will of course learn things that would have been revealed to him had he stayed at home. He will pick up a new coat, suspended in mid-air by his furry hands, invariably will scratch the holder, and that scratching the holder more tightly will not make the cat let go. Too, the young traveler will learn, as he would have at home, that the insecticide-deer repellent does not tattle up in its clothing stores will not even bat an eyelash in response to his friendly overtures.

But only on The Big Trip, after seeing thousands of strange new people, does the youngster realize that everyone, except those he has met at the home of his mother, likes a 17-month-old, and that men with big, booming voices and women who rush at him are just as nice as other folks. He discovers that some of these strangers have qualities not found among his previously limited circle of acquaintances. There is the spry little nun with oodles of delicious suckers con-

WASHINGTON
THE SELECTION of a Chief Justice of the United States is a matter of moment second only, if indeed it is second, to the nomination and election of a President. The Supreme Court is the ultimate repository of faith in government under law and the Chief Justice is the presiding officer as well as the symbol of the dignity and the high purpose of that great institution.

In the past 20 years the Court has suffered grievous blows as the struggle for power between the three coordinate branches of government has become more and more intense. In his appointments to the judiciary, high and low, President Truman failed too often in approximating the standards of impartiality and objectivity set by some of his predecessors.

The nomination of Gov. Earl Warren, should meet with general approval. Warren has again and again demonstrated not only his political popularity with both Democrats and Republicans in California but his integrity as a public servant. He is a man of moderate and sensible views, both in general and in particular, and in the road position that President Eisenhower has said he desires to follow.

LIBERAL VIEWS
Because he had frequently taken the liberal view, Warren has been denounced by the reactionary right in his own party. These extremists, however, may in his own state were determined to block any chance he might have had for the Republican nomination at Chicago in June of '52.

But the circumstances leading to the decision to name him at once are to say the least curious. Last week at the White House, this reporter was told by a high official in the confidence of the President that there would be no haste in reaching the decision; that all concerned were conscious of the precedent under which no Chief Justice since 1796 has taken office on a Supreme Court bench without prior confirmation by the Senate. A thorough canvass

was under way of all the potentialities and possibilities surrounding such a grave matter.

While Warren had been most prominently mentioned, there were other candidates whose qualifications were being pressed on the White House. Considerable support had accumulated for Chief Justice Arthur T. Vanderbilt of the New Jersey Supreme Court. Vanderbilt has had a distinguished record in the law including the presidency of the American Bar Association.

At midnight Saturday, Attorney General Brownell requisitioned an Air Force plane to fly to Sacramento, during Sunday, and conferred with Warren. He flew back to Washington Monday night, arriving here at 7:45 a.m. and going directly to his office in the Department of Justice.

Whether by accident or design, word of his visit with Warren leaked out and was front page news throughout the country. This naturally started a chain reaction of inquiry leading to the White House. Obviously the visit could not be kept secret. If it had been any other choice, or of some kind of lengthy deliberation that would sit the merits of all candidates, this midnight flight ruled it out. Once the news of Brownell's meeting with Warren became known, it would have been embarrassing to the Governor of California if another candidate had been chosen or even if the selection had been long delayed.

Guessing Russian Intentions
One Of Ike's Biggest Tasks
By DON WHITEHEAD

WASHINGTON
PRESIDENT Eisenhower and his advisers are engaged in one of the most important and delicate of American history—a game of trying to figure out the intentions of Russia.

In its simplest terms, the problem is to try to determine from all the evidence available whether Russia is working toward peace or secretly plotting a war against the United States at some future date.

This estimate must be made, because there is no longer any sign that the Reds have the secret of the atomic bomb and the hydrogen bomb—forces of destruction which they will use in the past.

The historic Communist goal is world revolution and world domination. Whether the Reds are planning to achieve this by a means of achieving their goal is "something the President and his advisers must decide."

Eisenhower had a news conference Wednesday that Russia's progress on the hydrogen bomb is more important than the progress on determining Soviet intentions toward the West. He said he and his advisers were working to determine the proper attitude to the whole international situation in the light of the progress of the H-bomb.

As a former military man, Eisenhower is aware of the importance of two main facets of intelligence: (A) the capability, and (B) the intentions. If serious mistakes are made in either, serious disaster could follow.

Russian capabilities are fairly well known. The Russians have the largest army in the world, a large army well equipped with modern weapons. They have an air force capable of delivering their bombs against distant targets. They have a navy which is growing in power. The unknown factor is what Russia intends to do.

The war in Korea showed what can happen. The Chinese made a serious mistake about the enemy's capabilities and intentions. The United States was wrong on both counts in stinging up the Chinese Reds early in the war.

First, a mistake was made in the estimate that Red China would not enter the war. Then this error compounded by underestimating the Chinese Reds' military power.

In the early days of the war, the Tokyo Commission estimated the Chinese Reds would supply no more than 50,000 troops south of the Yalu River. The estimate given by Gen. Douglas MacArthur to former President Truman at their 1950 conference in October 1950.

Actually, the Red Chinese beat the United Nations forces into retreat and then increased this force to about a million.

Secretary of Defense Wilson says he doubts the Reds will start a war right now, but at the same time he has avoided making "any definite statement" as to whether they are capable of military spending.

Thus it is that American leaders watch eagerly for any concrete evidence of the Reds' intentions. But they want these intentions expressed in actions—and not merely words which have no real substance.

Until Russia makes known her intentions, it is only a guessing game.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
THE Joint Chiefs of Staff held a highly significant secret meeting last week to discuss the basic question of military preparedness against the hydrogen bomb. Result: they came up with the same old time-honored solution—the "merry-go-round."

In nomenclature language this means that the Army, Navy and Air Force will balance their strength. They will carve up military appropriations between them more or less evenly. Regardless of whether Russia is stronger in the air or on the land, the American Army, Navy and Air Force will continue to be strong among themselves with each wanting to get as strong as the other.

Just as strong as the other? Well, brought up in last week's meeting by Gen. Nathan Twining, Air Force chief of staff, was the question of the "merry-go-round" solution. It was pointed out that the Army could not start allocating men and materials to the three services until they had decided on the "merry-go-round" strategy.

They must face the fact that Russia has the hydrogen bomb, General Twining pointed out, and this must drastically change the old concept of 1945 military needs.

Air Force Losses
Twining, however, was moved under protest from the Army and Navy. Gen. Edgar, who was the Army's chief, argued: "We can't give up traditional but tested old weapons for new weapons." Gen. Edgar.



The Middle Viewpoint

Constitutional Confusion

By WILLIAM HENRY CHAMBERLIN
(The Wall Street Journal)

THE Fifth Amendment to the American Constitution is part of a bill of rights, inserted into the original text of the Constitution with a view to assuring specific protection of fundamental rights of the individual citizen against arbitrary encroachments of state power.

It provides, among other things, that no one may be twice placed in jeopardy for the same offense; that no one shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law; that private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation; and that no one shall be compelled, in any criminal case, to be a witness against himself.

It is this last provision of the Amendment that has become a center of attention and controversy. On many occasions persons who have been named by one or more witnesses as members of the Communist Party or of affiliated subversive organizations or of Soviet espionage rings have refused to answer questions put before them by Congressional committees, invoking the Fifth Amendment and professing fear of self-incrimination. Their right to do this without incurring the penalties of being held in contempt of Congress has been legally upheld.

This common practice has led to two extreme reactions. The first is advocacy of legislation which would force self-incrimination by the individual or water down the constitutional protection against compulsory self-incrimination.

At the other extreme it is argued that no unfavorable conclusions may be drawn about the conduct of the individual who refuses to answer questions put by a legally constituted investigating body of Congress.

NO REASONABLE COMPLAINT
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Quote, Unquote

Television is just beginning in some European countries and broadcasts in the Netherlands are only for three hours a week. "I am not sure whether this is a word for our sponsor" takes over here—Lexington Herald.

The captain of a British freighter claimed that the signal run by an American destroyer was countered during a spell of dirty weather in the Atlantic. The British captain said the forecast was pennant and the other indicating a question.

An American in the fringe was asked if he could save the mystery. "Yes, sir," he replied, "I mean: 'Heaven, where an IP'."

Joint Chiefs Stick To 'Balanced Force'

building up our navy—except for submarines.

They also use the money on air defenses, the bomber fleet and an atomic arsenal.

Maginot Line Strategy
BRITISH point out that the French general staff, in coping with the German war in 1918 when they placed too much defense hope on the Maginot Line. The Germans eventually developed a new concept of war—the blitzkrieg—and sent panzer divisions with fast-moving troops right around the Maginot Line, conquering France in a few days.

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From The Greensboro Daily News

SHEFFIELD CASE: MORE TO COME

ANOTHER official of the State Prison at Lenoir—Louis C. Smith, farm superintendent for Warden Wilson—has resigned with a "blast" at the incompetent administration and its proclivity for placing politics above public service.

Speaking of Miss Ronie Sheffield's dismissal, Smith said:

It definitely was politics. In Miss Sheffield's efforts to run Woman's Prison as she thought it should be run, she met with opposition from a number of highway commission officials. She community had trouble getting funds approved and in need of proper credit for services rendered by Woman's Prison. She got little co-operation from the State Prison. The highway commission.

At Smith points, it was politics in the first place which led to the attack on Miss Sheffield. Because the campaign victory was for more funds to Warden Wilson to transform it from a third-rate institution into a first-rate one, the highway commission.

Senator McCarthy says the Berlin story is a hoax. Well, he ought to know a hoax when he sees one.

Kentucky only has three poisonous snakes and millions of gallons of medicine to cure their bites—Elizabethtown (Ky.) News.