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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1957

Hagerty Kayos Himself With Attack On A Funny Man

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON (AP)—The late Steve Early... a New York Negro politician at the climax of the third Roosevelt campaign has a White House press secretary manning to attract such a staggering amount of adverse publicity as James C. Hagerty has collected in Paris.

Recent news events like the NATO conference generate a unique crowd psychology to which all its participants are subject. All politicians and reporters know such occasions, with their intermittent sleep, odd hours and terrible food. Any honest one will admit that he — or she — has sometimes reacted in a manner which could charitably be described as peculiar.

But while Early, a violent Virginian, blundered atavistically in hot blood, the Paris dispatches show Hagerty measuring his own pitfall for size, digging it deep and jumping in.

In his special press conference called to rebuke columnist A. T. Buchwald for a take-off on a Hagerty press conference, the Eisenhower press secretary broke a cardinal rule of the trade. It is: Never tongue with a funny man.

Laughter is the most terrible weapon that can be leveled against a politician. A fight can be won against a serious critic even when the critic is right; the echoes of laughter are a hand-maiden to the furie.

The immediate consequences of Hagerty's incredible action are clear.

Columnist Buchwald had 50 odd outlets for his sophisticated jests; they are now worldwide currency. It is a wonderful break for him personally, he is now receiving fresh harvests of attention with his spoof of his spoof.

Amid all the laughter there is a kernel of hard reality showing through which is no favor to Hagerty's boss, the President. It was the scarcity of hard news about the conference, the lack of real achievement to obscure the personalities involved, Buchwald was doing as much as his serious colleagues to highlight the conference difficulties, maybe more.

That aspect in remembrance of former President Truman's savage letter to Washington music critic Paul Hume, attacking Hume for his review of Margaret Truman's concert here. Hume's unflattering remarks about Margaret's voice were destined for a limited audience for a few hours; everybody promptly became aware of them.

But this is not all the Hagerty has done. The White House press secretary today, by reason of the special Eisenhower circumstances, is a somewhat man among men. His administration policy-maker. He is this country's major news channel into conferences where a menacing picture is being shaped.

Washington has had its hearty laugh and is now asking what has happened to Hagerty. Has he been overestimated? Why does he give way to such a public display of nerves?

Hagerty has advertised a sensitivity about the situation in which the administration is placed which begins with the President himself and runs clear through the executive branch.

That sensitivity sent the President to Paris, determined to prove that he is, too, recovered from his heart attack, able to do the job of President in that field where the American people have been taught to rely unconditionally on him. The President allowed himself to be "recovered" by Richard M. Nixon and Adlai Stevenson to make the journey as the sole creative head of the American government.

One Paris friend, engaged, candid and mild before the camera, has already marred that picture, and Hagerty knows it.

The truth is that the President has his own ideas too many for the petty creators of the all-wise Eisenhower re-election campaign, and they all know it. It is not the President's business, any case; the Soviet conquest of space has highlighted it.

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Censorship: This, Too, Will Pass

CENSORSHIP by county sheriffs and other self-appointed guardians of public purity cannot endure in North Carolina. Time and the unremitting pressure of opinion will surely relieve us of this foolishness.

Blacklisting a shabby and discredited blot at best, is already losing support among the very people who are expected to wield it. Wayne County Sheriff Jesse Hinson conceded this week that most sheriffs feel they "aren't qualified to judge reading material for others." He promised to oppose censorship activities of North Carolina Sheriff's Association at the organization's next annual meeting.

This whole adventure in censorship, described in depth this week in a three-part series by News Review Reporter Bill Hughes, has provided one of the gamier chapters in North Carolina history. Most Tar Heels have simply considered it a major impertinence that a member of members of a private organization should attempt to tell them what they should or should not read. But, unfortunately, a good many magazine distributors have been panicked into blindly accepting the blacklists' judgment that what is good or bad can be determined by titles rather than the contents of individual issues.

A number of the magazines on the sheriff's association blacklist have produced rather shocking trash in the past. Some of this material may be obscene. But it seems to us that the best method

of dealing with the situation would be to proceed as the government proceeds against other types of suspected crime, by ordinary due process. Responsible judgment on matters as delicate as an obscenity charge should be made by jurists experienced in the evaluation of evidence and not by amateurs or police agents who are not equipped by training or intelligence to deal with the condition.

Magazine censorship may seem to be a relatively minor matter. It is not. It leads to similar outrages against printed material of all kind. In the end it threatens the whole system of mass communications.

"Under our system of government," wrote Justice Douglas in a famous Supreme Court opinion, "there is an accommodation for the widest varieties of tastes and ideas. What is good literature, what has educational value, what is refined public information, what is good art, varies with individuals as it does from one generation to another. There doubtless would be contrarily views concerning Cervantes' DON QUIXOTE, Shakespeare's VENUS AND ADONIS and Zola's NANA. But a requirement that literature or art conform to some norm prescribed by an official sparks of an ideology foreign to our system."

Government censorship is bad enough. Private censorship is merely a polite form of lynch law and as such is utterly intolerable. Lynch law is never very popular for long. This, too, will pass.

Fourteen Face A Fabulous Future

THE leitmotif of a 14-county community development program activated this week is "enlightened self-interest." This familiar phrase turned up again and again in the polished prose of Carolinians who launched the vast cooperative venture in Charlotte.

But "enlightened self-interest" is more than rhetorical froth. It reflects accurately the motivation and the challenge of the area's fine project.

Working together for the good of all, the 14 counties surrounding Charlotte will indeed be serving their own best interests.

This is a great and growing area. Its economic opportunities are unlimited. But in the past it has thought too little of its common causes and its common potential.

The development program will give the central Piedmont's heartland an opportunity to realize its great potential. In so doing, the area will be building a higher standard of living and a better life for all of its inhabitants.

This is no scheme simply to boost Charlotte as a capital of commerce. Of course, Charlotte would benefit if the program is successful. But it would benefit only as a part of the whole, as a sharer in the progress of all. The common welfare is the important thing.

In fostering neighborliness, in participation of all residents in community life, in working for the economic well-being of the whole area, we can all share in the benefits of the area's progress.

Let's go to work.

Of Revolving Records & Stuck Menus

EVERYTHING was the same at the place where we take lunch. The table cloths were clean, the chairs comfortable, the menu unchanged, and the music was going round and round.

The music, in fact, was going round and round in the same groove of a record of a particularly frantic polka. This we had noted only dimly. But our ucerated companion was bitter in his complaint against being a captive audience for a broken-down record player. It was understandable in a way. He takes lunch most days in a hotel joint where the only music is made by the continuing "with onions" refrain of the court-martian. He could hardly be expected to know that most high class emporiums nowadays treat their patrons to sustained musical renditions. They are not half-hearted about it either. There will be music despite the objections of a few ungrateful wretches who make loaded remarks about the blessedness of silence on their way back to clattering offices. What right, after all, have they to come to a high class eatery and expect to consume their meals in silence?

Nearly everybody loves music.

All this we pointed out to our friend, who seemed to be massaging his sudden-onset of Lawrence Welk swinging out on the polka again and got stuck again in that accordion passage. But he was not appeased, not even when we pointed out the pains the restaurant took to assure musical variety. We recalled that during the summer months there had been a bouncy record of organ music followed by the haunting strains of a Hawaiian guitar, and that in this season SILENT NIGHT is never played twice in a row. The succession is SILENT NIGHT, LITTLE TOWN OF BEETHLEHEM, SILENT NIGHT, LITTLE TOWN OF BEETHLEHEM, SILENT NIGHT, etc.

He was unimpressed. It seemed. Obviously he had not found his luncheon restful. And he seemed to be saying a lot of uncomplimentary things about the progress that installed music in restaurants.

We could hardly hear him or the music. It's a little difficult when you're wearing earplugs.

From The Raleigh News & Observer

THE CHOSEN ONES

SINCE the wholesale advent of the freezer locker, hog killing time in North Carolina has lost some of its ever-so-edge. This fall ritual was actually a folk festival when weather controlled the eating of meats. But, fortunately, some farmers still adhere to the festival spirit, and this enables their town friends to say grace with an extra special buoyancy.

Most farm hogs are killed between Thanksgiving and Christmas on those frosty mornings when your breath is a wisp of fog when if you can't see you will never look one again. The whole family is required to butcher and dress the meat, to keep the fires burning and the water scalding. The children get to mess school. Neighbors come by, hunters look in, and even the mail man can't resist the vibrant come-ons of the morning. For a few days following everyone tries to kill himself eating, but even amid the manual onslaught the farmer is making packages of sausage, spareribs, back-bone, tenderloin, pig's feet and hamlet for his town friends.

He goes to town laden with wonderful things to eat. Santa Claus in a pick-up truck sharing the wealth in a glorious manner that the Communists could never comprehend. To be on this chock-loading list is to the town man what being smiled at by Gen. Lee was to the Con-

federate soldier. Money you may not have and fame you may not seek, but you know that in the grandest local fashion you have been especially appointed. For a few days following the annual visit of your best friends you take on a spectacular trimmings. Your wife knows this and your children knows it, and all would sing a song if inherent gluttony weren't so insurmountable. The frozen stuff is all right on a cloudy day, but it resembles the freshly killed stuff only as the dew resembles the rain.

One day I overheard a little girl talking to a neighbor child with whom she was playing cowboy. "You be Wild Bill Hickup," she said, "and I'll be Wyatt Burp." — LAMAR (Mo.) DEMOCRAT.

"A young woman has learned how to cook a 'three-minute' egg in half that time." — From a news story. In these days and times, the most remarkable thing about this accomplishment is that, regardless of the time consumed, a young woman learned how to cook an egg. — JACKSON (MISS.) STATE TIMES.

Debates in the 12-year-old United Nations are now an agonizingly slow process to think of what they'll be like when it grows old enough to use some really rough words. — COLUMBIA (S.C.) STATE.

'Never Laid A Glove On Me. By The Way, Where Am I?'



Calling Dr. Adenauer

Dulles Has Dealt Out Dulles

By WALTER LIPPMANN

AS THE NATO meeting ended, it was harder than ever to understand what we expected to accomplish by infusing its importance. Our purpose, apparently, was to rally the Europeans to two ideas. One was that we should arm them with intermediate range missiles. The other was that they should steadily reject the notion of negotiating with the Russians.

As the missiles do not now exist, and will not be ready for at least a year, we were asking the Europeans to be highly provocative though they remained undecided. They were to provoke the Russians by agreeing to accept missile sites before the missiles could be stationed at the sites. And they were to provoke the Russians by refusing to talk seriously with them.

This program was such a crude miscalculation of European interests and of European feelings that it is no wonder the conference has shown such spectacular lack of confidence in American leadership.

CAUTIOUS CONTINENTALS

The Norwegians and the Danes have rejected the American military proposal. The British, the Dutch and the Turks have accepted it, though it is far from certain that the British government has the support of the country and

himself as the negotiator in the negotiations which will nevertheless be carried on. The United States will no doubt be informed and consulted during these negotiations. But the principal negotiator for the Western alliance will be Dr. Adenauer.



KONRAD ADENAUER The Pressure's On

is able to make an enduring commitment. The continental, most particularly the Germans, have not accepted and have not rejected the Dulles military proposals. They have taken an option on these proposals. They are treating these options as a bargaining asset in the diplomatic negotiations which, following the Bulgarian note, they intend to have with the Russians.

Not the least significant development in these last days is that the forthcoming negotiations with Russia are to be undertaken separately by various countries—particularly, it must be said again, by West Germany. What Mr. Dulles has accomplished by his loud and public protests against negotiation has been to disqualify

himself as the negotiator in the negotiations which will nevertheless be carried on. The United States will no doubt be informed and consulted during these negotiations. But the principal negotiator for the Western alliance will be Dr. Adenauer.

BALANCE SHIFTED

The decline of American leadership in NATO is due primarily, of course, to the strategic consequences of the presumed change in the balance of power. The balance, which has turned against us because the Russians are ahead of us in the big missiles, cannot be righted effectively by the medium range missiles which Mr. Dulles has offered the European.

Unless in Europe and Africa there were hundreds of missile sites, too many to be knocked out by the Russians, it is a great question whether a few missile sites have any serious deterrent power.

Our military leadership of NATO is bound to be very weak unless and until we have in active operation on our own territory batteries of inter-continental missiles. This cannot be done soon and the world will not stand still while we are working to arm ourselves. What we shall find, what in fact we have already found in Paris this week, is that if we re-nounce diplomacy in the manner of Mr. Dulles, our allies cannot and will not follow our lead.



JAMES HAGERTY What's The Matter?

When the illness surgery followed, it was apparently decided such risks could again be taken. The attack was minimized, and only independent research disclosed that for insurance companies and the medical profession generally lenis was "serious, always serious."

No reporter has since been able to interview the President's doctors. The chary post-operation press conference was never repeated. Reporters now are told by Hagerty what the doctors say; they are not permitted to question the doctors.

Now the President has had a stroke. They are all embarrassed — and it is showing. They may be worried.

POOR PREPARATION

Perhaps if the administration had not been so pampered by the press until the spunk flashed across the sky today's skeptical attitude in the Charlotte paper of Sept. 14? Has Dr. Graham sent that article around the world, showing the undue publicity and carelessness of the people in Charlotte, and especially those in the Harding High School?

— MRS. HARRY E. JENSEN

People's Platform

Why Is White Not Capitalized?

Editors, The News:

RECENTLY I visited Charlotte which is my former home, and as you have been so kind as to print a previous letter, I would like to ask that this one be printed, and would also like advice, as well as interpretation on several matters.

In The News of Dec. 8, there was a picture of four white men and one Negro in the center, with caption: "Mr. Graham and the 'School Admitted Dedicated'." Mr. McClintock, chairman of the County Board of Education, J. W. Wilson, superintendent of Charlotte, and others were identified by their initials. Had they been referred to again, or would have been as Mr. McClintock, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Bradford and Mr. Ransom.

Negro is capitalized because Negro is a race. White, being a term substituted for the Caucasian race, is not capitalized because white is not the name of a race.

We are unable to answer Mrs. Jensen's question about Dr. Graham. The News reported his talk at Harding High School as the public statement of a public figure. We have no further information about the matter.

It is my understanding of all the propaganda regarding the Supreme Court's decision that there is to be no discrimination, and this disrespect to our white citizens has been noted by many people for some time.

May I also have explained why the press refers to the white race as "whites" while referring to the Negro race as "Negro"? This disrespect to the white race also has been very obvious.

Also, referring to the article on the front page of your paper a short time ago, entitled "Graham Suggests Ask Dorothy Back," with Dr. Frank Graham's statement that "there was a lag in the signing over the control of the onrush of totalitarian power."

"We had a little sort of convivial party last evening; just about a dozen of us set to work, most patriotically, to see whether we could not get rid of that curse of the land, whiskey, and we made considerable progress." — Davy Crockett's Diary, Feb. 19, 1836.

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9. An October test of the Vanguard rocket had to be "scrubbed" (postponed) because of a ground crew member who had pulled the wrong lever. The rocket was launched, but the pump motor simply had run out of gas.

10. Last summer, six \$10,000 recorders were stacked at the test center upon the ground. A fire warning was issued not to let it happen again. Four months later, six more recorders were stacked upon down.

11. A \$2,000,000 Thor missile was destroyed by mistake because a careless technician crossed the wrong wires in the system. This shows the ground officer whether the missile is on course. The second firing of the big 1,200-mile-per-hour missile, the Atlantic on a per-minute basis, took 12 seconds. But the crossed wires made it appear to be looping in the opposite direction toward Orlando. The safety officer frantically pushed the destroy button.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Editors' Note: While Drew Pearson is taking the Harlem ghetto-brothers on a merry-go-round, the good-will tour of North Africa, his column is written by his associate, Jack Anderson.

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Management, and inefficiency have been swept under the secrecy label that has been slapped across the missile testing operations at Cape Canaveral.

These facts are better hidden than the missile secrets security regulations are supposed to protect. However, here are a few embarrassing incidents the top brass has tried to hush up:

1. The Air Force would send thousand miles of plastic cable around Cape Canaveral in 1955-61. The Florida dampness easily seeped through it, short-circuiting the vital testing communication network. Result: The whole tangled maze has now been replaced at a cost of millions.

2. A gleaming yellow technical lab has just been completed at Patrick Air Force Base, which administers the test center. Before the technical experts were through inspecting it, they had ordered revisions that will cost an estimated \$800,000.

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Some Follies From The Missile Ranges

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4. During this austerity, Patrick's brass hats sent a C-54 to Trinidad to pick up the island's 100 men to keep the vital station. The plane developed motor trouble over the Dominican Republic, and the crew spent a seven-day holiday waiting for another C-54 to be flown down to the second plane, they picked up the Cayman troupe and later flew them back to Trinidad.

5. The supply system for the missile range is so gummed up that requisitions often aren't filled for several months. There are 47 different requisition forms and no supply officer is familiar with all of them. Example: It took 18 months to fill requisition No. 62536 for a sandblast machine and No. 6837 for 100,000 bolts. Months to fill requisition No. 62490 for a steam table and Nos. 79988, 65622, and 78569 for air-conditioning equipment.

6. The missile outfit, on black, clin der-topped Ascension Island, waited several months for such basic supplies as soap. But they got two huge packing crates of toilet paper, and the outfit's chief, a lieutenant's aide, declared: "RUST IN FEACE."

7. A requisition for fuel oil for Ascension was mysteriously misplaced. Fortunately, a Navy tanker was diverted to the island in time to keep the vital station from being shut down. Meanwhile, both the original requisition and a substitute showed up, so a double supply was shipped out routinely.

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Does Dr. Graham know that both Dorothy Graham and her father received the statement that they were made as to the showing, pushing, hitting her with a blackboard eraser and piece of tin in an article in the Charlotte paper of Sept. 14? Has Dr. Graham sent that article around the world, showing the undue publicity and carelessness of the people in Charlotte, and especially those in the Harding High School?

— MRS. HARRY E. JENSEN

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