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Gruenther Is The Man For The Job

THE elaborate precautions President Eisenhower has taken to test the political winds on the possible appointment of Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther to succeed Charles E. Wilson as secretary of defense are largely unnecessary. Gen. Gruenther is almost universally respected and admired. His record as a soldier-statesman is outstanding. His incisive intellect and rare skill as an administrator have been demonstrated time and time again over the years. The President could not find a better man for a demanding job.

As for the appointment of a general as the civilian chief of this nation's vast defense establishment, there is a little cause for concern. The tradition is not so sacred that it cannot be bent a little when a particularly able man comes along who has not been out of uniform for quite the required amount of time. Such a man was Gen. George Catlett Marshall who served as secretary of defense under President Truman from 1950 to 1951—although the Republicans did raise a howl at the time. "If this principle of a civilian secretary is violated once," thundered Sen. Knowland (R-Calif.), "it will be a case of the camel getting his nose under the tent." Said Sen. Jenner (R-Ind.): "This is a staggering swindle, a horrid hoax, a violation of the Constitution." And, of course, military men have often served as secretary of war. Among them: Maj. Gen. Henry Knox, secretary of war after the Revolutionary War; Gen. Ulysses S. Grant and William T. Sherman.

Gen. Gruenther demonstrated his mettle convincingly during his hitch as NATO's supreme commander. He took charge at a very difficult time. NATO had been formed under the aegis of fear. Gen. Eisenhower, NATO's first supreme commander, made use of his own towering prestige to rally Western Europe's terrified nations into the most powerful peacetime alliance of free

powers in the world's history. But Eisenhower was followed by Gen. Matthew Ridgway, a blunt soldier who made many demands and stepped on many toes. By the time Gen. Gruenther took command in mid-1952, Western Europe's fear had been replaced by complacency. Soviet Russia's "peace offensive" was going full blast and NATO seemed more like a source of trouble than of strength. With vigor and know-how, Gen. Gruenther went to work to mend the free world's sagging fences. His warnings had a straight-from-the-shoulder earnestness that commanded respect instantly. At one point he told the Soviets that the Soviets were taunting Chancellor Adenauer in Moscow, the steam shovels were moving the earth for new and bigger jet runways in Eastern Germany. Their smiles suggest peaceful intentions, but we must do our best to resist—these are airfields, these economic goals." He added flatly: "The Soviets' military threat to NATO has never been greater than it is today."

On U. S. journalist wrote in 1956: "He has won admiration among European statesmen that borders on adulation." A French newspaper editorialized at the time that a commander "less flexible and less informed on European politics—the short period of command by Gen. Ridgway shows this—would have brought great peril not only to the military organization but to the Atlantic Alliance itself." NATO Secretary-General Lord Ismay, who served as personal chief of staff to Prime Minister Churchill during World War II, put it this way: "Gen. Gruenther is the greatest soldier-statesman I have ever known."

For the past six months, Gen. Gruenther has been serving as president of the American Red Cross. But he is apparently ready and willing to take on a new chore for his country. His extraordinary talents can be put to exceedingly good use in the Defense Department.

'Well, Why Not? I Was Happy To Have The U. N. Formulate My Foreign Policy'



New Uproar Building

End Of The Road For TVA?

By MARQUIS CHILDS

THE power of the executive under the American form of government has its limitations, particularly when Congress is in a rebellious mood. But it is nevertheless a great power, if only by reason of the authority to fill the boards and commissions that form so large in the bureaucratic structure.

This is well illustrated by the Tennessee Valley Authority which the Eisenhower administration is about to take over in filling a second vacancy on the three-man TVA board. Ardent advocates of the TVA object to the development of a whole region, through utilizing all the potentialities of a great watershed, have been deeply apprehensive.

To try to do what the United States Chamber of Commerce recently recommended—sell TVA to the private utilities—would be politically impossible. But it is not impossible for so the dedicated friends of TVA both in and out of the region believe to cut back the development in such a way that eventually there will be no other course than to merge it with the private utilities.

BETRAYAL CHARGED

That would be accomplished by appointing men to the board who take the narrow view of TVA's role. The first Eisenhower appointee to TVA's board was Gen. Herbert D. Vogel of the Army Engineers. Since he was named TVA chairman three years ago, Vogel has repeatedly been accused of betraying TVA.

It now appears that Vogel will, in effect, name the second man to the board. He has recommended the appointment of Adolph G. Ackerman, a consulting engineer formerly with TVA. Ackerman's name has been under consideration and, as of now, it is highly probable that he will get the job.

KILLING RESISTANCE

The Senate must confirm the nomination, and ordinarily con-

siderable opposition could be expected from senators from the TVA area. But if the nomination should be sent up toward the end of a session in which legislation has been long delayed and tempers are worn down, then a prolonged fight would be unlikely. Or better still, from the viewpoint of those who want to see TVA established with as little fuss as possible, if the appointment were made after the Senate was in recess, the possibility of resistance would be virtually eliminated.

That is the fear of those who would like to prevent the appointment of a man whom they believe will be subordinate to Vogel. They are aware that the Ackerman nomination would have great plausibility. He is an engineer. He served with TVA, although as an associate of Arthur E. Morgan whose dismissal as chairman after a bitter controversy caused a profound upheaval in TVA.

THE LAW

While the TVA board must report to the President, it is a semi-autonomous body created by Congress. As originally conceived, the appointees were to be nonpolitical. The members of the board were to be men who believed, as the law specifies, in the "feasibil-

Electric Power Causes Political Shocks



Electric Power Causes Political Shocks

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON U. S. diplomats won't talk about it publicly, but they fear snubs from Washington have plagued Canadian-American relations to an all-time low. The release of derogatory information that a new country, raised a family, and ambassador to Egypt was only the last in a series of incidents.

Post Abolished

Long before this, Secretary of State Dulles was irritating the Canadians. He called home the American cultural attaché from Ottawa and abolished the post in order to save a meager \$5,000-per-year salary.

Today the United States has no information service in Canada of any kind. A low-ranking clerk in the Ottawa Embassy is in charge of U. S. public relations for the entire nation. Top U. S. diplomats, including Dulles, are busy flying to faraway places that they never spend the \$100 plane fare to pay a good visit to neighboring Canada.

Bristling Criticism

Result is that Canadian newspapers now bristle with criticism of the United States. Some Canadian politicians are campaigning for election on a platform of seeing who can hurl the harshest accusations at the U. S.

Wagner's Trips

Note: One exception is New York's Mayor Robert Wagner, who has even without the slightest suggestion from the

Demos Fear Cabinet 'Villain' Will Be Spared Jucey Probe

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON

DEMOCRATS who think they know a good issue when they see it are becoming increasingly restive over the slow start of the Senate Finance Committee's inquiry into the Eisenhower administration's monetary and fiscal policies.

What they fear is that Treasury Secretary John W. Humphrey and his controversial under secretary, W. Randolph Burgess, will disappear into the tall grass of private life before the proposed probe can get well started. There is a fresh spate of rumors flying July 15 as the departure date of these two officials.

Personal devils are an imperative in the successful development of a political issue by congressional committee. Humphrey or Burgess, or both, would fill the bill in this instance, and justice because they have in truth and in fact made profound changes in the management of the public debt and the cost of money here.

These changes have created acute anxiety among economists, financial experts and politicians.

OBLIVIOUS CHOICES

The men who made them, rather than their successors, are the obvious choices to explain and defend their policies.

Undeniably, Humphrey and Burgess have added billions to the annual cost of carrying the huge public debt. The only beneficiaries are the banks. Critics of the Humphrey-Burgess management have by design put the government at the mercy of the bankers now and in the foreseeable future.

At the same time, the cost of doing business has been increased, raising the commercial mortgage rate to follow the Treasury rate.

PATTERN SET

The enticing prospect that some senators see here is another Bank

Secretary Humphrey An Acute Anxiety

of the United States case where the question was whether the government or the private banks would control the central banking system. That fight set the character of the monetary policy of the administration of Andrew Jackson as a champion of the people.

The key figure in the coming investigation is, of course, the Senate Finance chairman, Harry F. Byrd of Virginia. It is a new role for that southern conservative, who has been almost isolated in the Senate for years and who has taken little if any part in Senate investigations.

ROLE CHOSEN

Byrd chose his new role deliberately. Sen. Albert Gore, a new member of the Finance Committee, had proposed a joint investigation by the Senate and House.

Conservatives find it hard to believe that Byrd will bear down on Humphrey, Burgess and the new administration, which he has supported. Critics are satisfied that he will control the investigation in order to settle it.

WHOLE STORY

Fellow committee members desire this emphatically. They believe that Byrd has been thoroughly disillusioned by the actions of the present Treasury administration, which have raised the cost of government and of business generally. Although he seems to have a "soft spot" for the Democrats, he will let the whole story unfold in all its details.

SEN. ALBERT GORE A Leading Role Lost

GORE had proposed a joint investigation by the Senate and House, but Byrd countered with the proposal that the Finance Committee make the investigation. This automatically put the reins in Byrd's hands.

Byrd's choice has new role deliberately. Sen. Albert Gore, a new member of the Finance Committee, had proposed a joint investigation by the Senate and House, but Byrd countered with the proposal that the Finance Committee make the investigation. This automatically put the reins in Byrd's hands.

People's Platform

The Tenth Amendment Justifies Movie Ban

Editors, The News: I've noticed you've attacked the right and the wisdom of the sovereign State of South Carolina to restrict the showing of the integration movie, "Island In The Sun."

You and the liberal crowd prate much about "liberty, freedom, democracy etc." Yet it's obvious that you have little coherent knowledge of true American liberalism. You're trapped in a jungle of intellectual double standards, constantly juggling double standards of values and you'll surely stop an intellectual Olympus.

It would seem that Gen. Vogel's virtue is that he knew what he wanted and he was ready with a plausible name at the moment when the White House began to be faced with an unpleasant necessity. With Vogel having a majority on the board, the friends of TVA are saying disconsolately, the TVA idea as it grew out of the dream of the late Sen. George Norris will come to an end.

Now, on the matter of this rotten film plot and South Carolina's reaction to it, you've assumed the totalitarian-type position of favoring judicial interpretation ("judicial legislation").

Consensus: Little meaning is inherent in the hollow question which you naively posed in connection with the film. "If an idea is repugnant, can't free men be depended upon to reject it?"

J. R. CHERRY JR.

Today's Cash Buys Tomorrow's Music

A FEVER chart of Charlotte's passion for culture would contain more ups and downs than the Appalachians. Public interest reaches peaks of enthusiasm during "the season," then declines with a sigh when the hot weather sets in.

Unfortunately, this is the very time when the citizenry's enthusiastic support is needed most, for funds for next season's events must be raised well before the frost is on the ground. It is exclusively a warm weather chore.

The Charlotte Symphony Orchestra is currently suffering the pangs of public apathy. This is most unfortunate for the symphony continues to have the cultural enrichment of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. It is a necessity.

As entertainment, as an instrument of education and as an advertisement for the city, the symphony has served Charlotte well for more than a quarter

of a century. It would be nothing less than tragic for this fine musical institution to have to disband permanently because a city of 160,000 people failed to provide the 2,500 contributing members of a chorus keep it going. It is not enough to ask for so much value.

The wonderful work done among the youth of the community is reason enough to keep the symphony going. At the orchestra's youth concerts, hundreds of boys and girls in the fourth, fifth and sixth grades are receiving an inspiring introduction to the wonderful world of fine music. They should not be deprived of this experience. Nor should any Charlottean who loves symphonic music be deprived of the opportunity to hear it performed "live" in his own municipal auditorium.

The symphony is a civic must. It deserves the community's enthusiastic support.

The Senators Are Rocking To Oblivion

THERE is a wide variance in the secret desires of Americans.

A woman in Chicago, we remember reading in a survey on the subject, wanted a one-way ticket on the first trip to the moon. A hermit type in the Ozarks revealed that he was bothered occasionally by an impulse to go into town and see a moving picture.

In their secret hearts, however, U. S. senators have harbored a great deal of unanimity on the subject. Most of them, it develops, thought it would be nice to be massaged while sitting down. Furthermore, having access to the Treasury, they have arranged it. Chairs for senators in the new Senate Office Building will be equipped with motors. A senator can sit down, push a button and get "all shook up" by the vibrating motion of his chair. Wonderful! This could lead, we heartily suggest, to introduction of mechanical automation in the manufacture of laws.

If a chair can massage a sedentary senator, other machines surely can be devised to accomplish such tasks as these:

- Rewriting the Bricker Amendment.
Rejecting the Bricker Amendment.
Inserting speeches in the Congressional Record.
Conducting filibusters by pre-recording.

From The Southern Pines Plant

A LITTLE boy and his family moved into an old farm that still boasted one of them-things. Furthermore, it stood right at the edge of the river, on a high bank. This fascinated the youngster. He'd go out and look at it, think how loose that earth looked and how easy it would be to give it a good hard push and over she'd go. What a splash!

One day the urge came on him so hard that he put his shoulder to the privy wall, gave an awful shove and over she went, sure enough.

But the splash was so big that he took fright and made off.

Later in the day, his father called him in.

BIG SPLASH

"Son, did you push that privy into the river? Now I don't want any thing. Remember George Washington and the cherry tree. He didn't lie to his father, and I don't want you to."

So the little boy took a big gulp and came to a new country, raised a family, and in the great American tradition, after having served in World War I as an enlisted man who was commissioned in the field, I returned to set up a small farm that earth looked and how easy it would be to give it a good hard push and over she'd go. What a splash!

Whereat the father reached behind him and took up a big stick. "Hey! That ain't fair," the boy shouted. "George Washington's father didn't lick him when he told the truth about the cherry tree!"

"That's right," said the father, "he didn't. But George Washington's father wasn't sitting in the cherry tree."

Delivering the back-scratching eulogies which are required of senators wishing to disagree with other senators.

Delivering self-eulogies, such as this one offered in Senate on May 2 by Sen. Bricker: "Mr. President, it has become a familiar story in election years, of the rise of men from humble beginnings to positions of great public trust. I am proud to say that my own career has paralleled this typically American story. For my parents were immigrants who came to a new country, raised a family, and in the great American tradition, after having served in World War I as an enlisted man who was commissioned in the field, I returned to set up a small farm that earth looked and how easy it would be to give it a good hard push and over she'd go. What a splash!"

Admittedly, these suggestions encompass only the awkward beginnings of effective automation of the U. S. Senate.

But the vibrating chairs are a beginning. And the day may come when the Senate cannot be operated most efficiently and economically without the services of U. S. senators.

U. S.-Canadian Relations Reach Low Ebb

State Department, is heading north on a good-will trip this month.

Right-To-Work Bill Hefly Senate Republican leader Bill Jenner, an independent through of rather considerable weight behind the scenes to cut the right-to-work amendment away from the beleaguered civil rights bill.

Labor Objects He specifically objected to the right-to-work amendment, which organized labor considers union-busting legislation, and which was introduced by Sen. John McClellan, Arkansas Democrat, head of the rackets probe.

Filibuster Feared His strategy, he explained, is to get the committee to vote out the best possible civil rights bill, then have the filibuster tactics which will make it difficult

to amend on the Senate floor. Insiders believe Knowland's active support will force a Senate vote on civil rights, but probably not until next year. Senate Minority Leader Lyndon Johnson has already suggested privately that the Senate will be too bogged down with appropriations bills to take up civil rights this year.

Note-Knowland may be clearing decks to challenge Gov. "Goody" Knight for the governorship of California next year. Knight helped block a right-to-work bill in the California Legislature.

There's already one big swimming pool of officers' personnel in the big military post across the Potomac from Washington. But another elegant pool, costing about \$70,000, is being built right alongside it for the restricted use of officers' families. Enlisted men and their families have a pool of their own elsewhere on the post.