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Editorial Correspondence

The Right-Wing Pioneers Of Israel Live In A Perilous Collective Order

By CECIL PRINCE
Editor, The News

HIGH in the windswept Judean hills above Jerusalem is a cluster of stark wooden huts known as Mevout Betar.

It is one of hundreds of kibbutzim (collective farms) perched precariously on the frontiers of Israel's Arab neighbors.

Here is adventure, the spirit of the halutz (pioneer) and here, too, is danger and possibly even death.

Mevout Betar lies naked and exposed on a particularly strategic hill 15 miles southwest of Jerusalem and just across the mountain from Bethlehem. Its houses are nestled tightly against the barbed wire barriers that mark the beginning of no man's land.

Shalom," said our host, using the traditional greeting of Israel, a word that rolls softly off the tongue and means "Peace."

"We live hard here," he said. "But we live. The soil is too bad for anything but chickens, goats and a few grapes. But 24 kilometers away we have a fertile field for some fruits and a few vegetables. We work hard and we live hard, but it is a life."

The virility and energy of the early Jewish immigrant is best illustrated in the kibbutzim. They are usually small colonies, of varying degrees of strictness in their organization, but all they demand devotion, industry, self-sacrifice and sacrifice of family much beyond that normally required of colonists—even in the wilder parts of the world. Their founders still believe in the communal idea: From each according to his capacity, to each according to his need. They run the exploitation of labor (the hiring of farm hands) and private property (the payment of wages). There is common ownership of all the fruits of labor.

At Mevout Betar, there are 137 people — mostly couples and a few children. The majority are Jews from South America (our host was from the Argentine), although some are natives of North America and a few are Sabras (Israel-born). They are all strong, lean, highly motivated people. There are no "leaders," only a secretary and a governing council to distribute the wealth.

Mevout Betar, like most collectives, represents a particular political conviction. Strangely enough, it is of an extreme, right-wing nationalist party, anti-Socialist, anti-Communist, even anti-Ben Gurion and his government — although its chosen mode of living is of the far left. A purer communal arrangement could hardly be imagined. "It is," laughed

an Israeli journalist tramping with us across the rocky fields, "one of the many paradoxes you will find in Israel. This is a land of just such paradoxes."

Our host took us into a dark, dark recreation hall where we found a stage, a ping-pong table, a radio of ancient vintage and a few samples of neo-primitive art on the walls. One wall, however, was lined with photographs of smiling young men dressed in open-throated military shirts. They were, we were told, the men of Mevout Betar who died defending it from the Arabs. Several had simply been murdered by infiltrators when they went for water or moved about the community performing their normal duties as farmers.

This constant danger from infiltrators gave Mevout Betar the atmosphere of a besieged fortress. And this sensation of a community at bay fostered a garrison mentality. In a garrison, the citizen is a military component rather than an individual.

The austerity of kibbutz life is severe and only the hardest idealists choose it. Actually, the recruiting of settlers for these rock-ribbed outposts is difficult in Israel today because the spirit of the halutz is not as prevalent as it was when Zionism was a challenge to adventure and the urge to push back the wilderness and create a brave new world burned in every young Zionist's heart.

The rugged frontier near frontiers borders discourages many prospective settlers. Then, too, Jews from many countries have been used to an urban existence. By custom and tradition they were city dwellers engaged in commerce, arts and crafts. They were used to a totally new form of life. As a result, the kibbutz in Israeli agriculture is not as important as it once promised to become. If the new immigrants are willing to go on the land at all, they are likely to ask a day's pay for a day's work rather than the communal system of the kibbutzim.

BUT Israel needs these hardy pioneers. For one thing, the farm colonies became part of the country's border defense. Because thinly populated territory might weaken her claim against covetous neighbors, Israel has encouraged the settlement of all the empty spaces along her rugged frontiers. The kibbutzim keep the kibbutzim constantly on an abnormal alert, cutting into their productive capacity.

"It is tempting to compare the kibbutz dwellers to your American pioneers and say they are the nation's 'frontiersmen,'" said an Israeli government official in Jerusalem this week. "But the comparison is not quite fair. Your pioneers had a virgin land at their disposal. Our pioneers have nothing but rocks and mountains and barren soil. We are forced to perform miracles your pioneers never dreamed of."

They are performing those miracles with rakes and plow—but there is a rifle behind the door.

John Kasper's violent quest for personal glory has been a masterpiece of confusion. His announced intention of leading the white citizens of North Carolina adds another piece to the puzzle. That is, what qualifications for this new task has he set himself?

As late as 1955, this self-described "rabble rouser and trouble-maker" was advocating a march of Negro citizens on Washington and advocating their membership in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He was the proprietor, in association with a Negro woman, of a Greenwich Village bookstore in which interracial dancing parties were held. He was a devotee of the fascist poet Ezra Pound and the publisher of some of Pound's works, such as THE UNWORKING PROLETARIAT AND THE GREAT DIGEST OF CONFLICTS. He was the distributor of a list of books recommended for reading which included several anti-Semitic volumes and Hitler's Mein Kampf.

This was the John Kasper that a few intellectuals, or "high-brows" as Kasper called his friends, knew in New York and later in Washington. The John Kas-

per that Tennessee and the rest of the nation came to know a year later was a segregationist professing affection for what he termed "lowbrow hillbillies and rednecks," and urging them to riot and spill blood.

From all appearances John Kasper at age 27 has not yet straightened out his thinking. Within a period of two years he has been an integrationist, a segregationist, a highbrow and a lowbrow, a publisher of oblique poetry and a clumsy user of the plain talk of Tennessee mountaineers.

He shouldn't put himself out to come to North Carolina. He needs time to think things through before bidding for the leadership of North Carolinians. They have no use for the Ku Klux Klan, much less for a confused young man whom even the Klan rejects.

If the justice doesn't give Kasper some time for thinking following his conviction by a Tennessee jury, he should take some anyway.

North Carolina can spare him all the time he needs. North Carolina, we'd say, can get along without John Kasper indefinitely.

John Kasper Should Think Things Over

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From The St. Louis Post-Dispatch

M.D. AND W.D.

A PHYSICIAN who knows his profession as few could ever know it is, it seems to us, Dr. Christopher Okojie who recently completed a post-graduate course in general surgery at New York University. In this age of specialization Dr. Okojie has a specialty to which others will have to take a back seat. It is in fact so special that he does not even practice it. Dr. Okojie is a witch doctor. Not just a witch doctor we hasten to

add. He is first and foremost a medical doctor, the founder and director of the Zuma Memorial Hospital at Iruwa, 400 miles up the Niger river from Lagos, capital of Nigeria. But he was once apprenticed to a medicine man and served a two and a half year apprenticeship — beginning when he was 5 years old. So we guess that would complete the apprenticeship and make him a full-fledged W.D.

School Aid Bill: Ike's Lukewarm And Nixon's Red Hot

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON President Eisenhower may not understand the political effect of his equivocal words on the school construction bill that is one member of his administration acutely aware of the consequences in the country of the President's uncertainty.

Vice President Nixon went all out for school construction, warning in unmistakable language that defeat of the bill providing \$1.5 billion federal money for schools over the next five years would be put squarely on the Republican Party. This was at the conference of Republican legislative leaders at which the President had said earlier that while he was for the measure then up for a vote, and now defeated, in the House he had doubts about some of its features.

What gave even more concern to Republicans who feel their party must make good on this often promised measure was the fact that the President permitted House Minority Leader Joseph Martin (R-Mass.) to express his doubts. Martin has long been known as indifferent if not actually opposed to the school construction bill.

FALLING ELOQUENCE

Those present at the legislative conference were impressed by the deal with which Nixon championed the school aid bill. He spoke, with some of the eloquence that has made him such an effective campaigner, both of the need for more classrooms in almost every section of the country and of the political reaction that is bound to follow defeat of school construction at this session of Congress. But his eloquence failed to resolve the President's uncertainty.

As Nixon knows full well, the school issue is directly related to high prices and the administration's "tight money" policy. With



REP. JAMES ROOSEVELT Plan Didn't Work

Last year the fire escape for the Republicans was the amendment pressed by Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-N.Y.), the Harlem Democrat who came out for Eisenhower's re-election. The Powell amendment provided that no federal school aid could go to any school district that had not begun to comply with the Supreme Court order requiring public schools to integrate Negro and white pupils.

long term bonds of the federal government offered at 4 per cent, school districts are finding it difficult or impossible to market their bonds — and therefore, to build schools. Rep. Wright Patman (D-Tex.) has been leading the Congressional Record with reports of the failure of states and municipalities to float bond issues for badly needed improvements.

Angry opponents of "tight money," such as Patman and Sen. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.) and Rep. S. Kerr (D-Okla.), insist that a conspiracy of bankers underwritten by Secretary of the Treasury George M. Humphrey has forced up interest rates for the benefit of a few insiders. Linked with overcrowded classrooms and a declining standard of education, this becomes an explosive issue touching millions of voters.

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VICE PRESIDENT NIXON He Lost The Sale

Roosevelt of California announced on the floor of the House that he would not permit the desegregation amendment to serve as an out for those desiring to kill the school aid bill. He was joined by other northern Democrats including Rep. Charles C. Diggs Jr., a Negro representing a Detroit district with a large number of Negro voters. The Powell amendment was offered anyway by Republican Rep. Wainwright of New York.

House. "A majority of Democrats voted for the bill — 119 to 105; a majority of Republicans against — 75 to 119. In view of the views expressed by a Republican President and the Republican performance, there can be no excuse for a repetition of such a performance if the issue is still clear."

President Eisenhower has in the past made strong affirmative statements for federal school aid. But on other issues, his doubts came to the surface when he was confronted in the showdown with the specific provisions of a measure that is sure to draw opposition from one quarter or another. His equivocal words on the civil rights issue depressed those in his own party who were convinced that they had both a moral and a political issue that put the GOP on an unassailable ground.

FRIENDLY HERO

The Eisenhower concept is of a President of all the people. That came out strongly in the context of his two campaigns when he appeared before the public as a friendly hero concerned for the welfare of all the people. It was a commendable effort, one entered politics at the top with a ready-made reputation. In contrast, Nixon, who came up through the ranks of the military, knows that when the chips are down you cannot take both sides of an issue.

People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but will be withheld from publication in the discretion of the editors. The News reserves the right to condense.

Man Never Forgets His Fellow's Errors

Editors, The News: When The Bible tells us that when The Lord forgives one sin that He remembers them against us no more forever and we are as pure as if we had not sinned.

But with man this is altogether different. A record is kept against the person as long as he or she lives. I cannot see any reason or excuse for the radios and television and newspapers to broadcast to the world that some person has violated the law, and brand these persons as criminals for life.

It seems that everything is done to make it as hard as possible for any person to make good again after they have once fallen into the hands of the law. Especially teenagers.

There are no perfect people in the world. The Bible also says that all have sinned. It looks like some of Charlotte's so-called charities, the Knights and the American organizations that raised more than a million dollars last year could use some of that money to try to help people who go wrong, especially teenagers.

The Constitution of the United States plainly says that all persons accused of crime shall have a trial by a jury but all do not get it. There are no juries in any Recorder's Courts. The enemies of the South are trying to pass a so-called civil rights bill in Washington which should rightly be called a hate bill. All Communist organizations in America are behind this bill, and are for it. I hope there are enough patriots in the Senate to defeat it.

—PARRS A. YANDLE

Proof On Palestine: Another Book Quoted

Great Falls, S. C. Editors, The News: I TUESDAY'S platform, Mr. Eisenhower stated that Palestine never did and does not now belong to the Jews. To substantiate his statement he refers to a book written by Alfred M. Lilienthal. Mr. Lilienthal's point of view is well known to Jews and non-Jews alike.

But as long as Mr. Cherry is seeking proof in books, let me refer him to a book that I am sure that he will consider authentic — the Holy Bible.

Genesis 17:7-8: "And I will establish My covenant between Me and thee and they shall see thee, throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant to be a God unto thee and to they seed after thee. And I will give unto thee, and they shall see, the land of thy sojourning, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be thy God." And in Genesis 15:14 to 17:

"And I will turn the captivity of My people Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them. And they shall plant vineyards, and they shall drink the vine thereof. They shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall not more be plucked out of their land which I have given them. Saith the Lord thy God."

If this isn't authentic proof that Palestine does belong to the Jews now and did belong to them before, then the other parts in the Bible aren't authentic. If you do believe in the Holy Bible, then you must believe this as well to be the truth. Because this is the word of God.

Time To Recall School Board?

Charlotte Editors, The News: If members of the Charlotte City School Board?

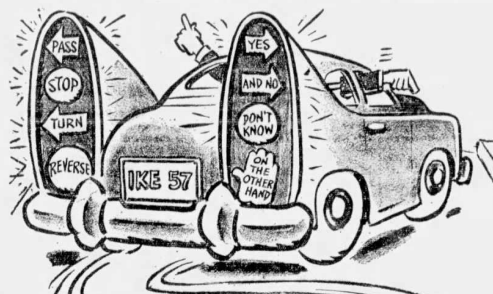
Quote, Unquote

Interesting economic discussion was overheard the other day by a lunch counter man who thought his haircuts should cost less because he's bald and a barber who wanted to pay less for his coffee because he drinks it black.—Detroit News.

Another Attempt

After this abortive conference in Chicago the three executives of the old and new Wisconsin companies. This took place in the Carlton Hotel in Washington on Jan. 3, at which the three competitors asked Simonds how far he was willing to sell them stock in his new pipeline. He replied that he would give them 40 per cent of the stock. They replied that they would take 75 per cent or nothing.

'What Do You Suppose He Means This Time?'



Bar Okays All New Judges

BY DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON BY MARK in comparison with Franklin D. Roosevelt's appointments to lifetime judgeships. In his slightly more than 12 years in office, Roosevelt named 217 life-tenure judges, 66 others.

It thus appears that the entire judicial branch of the government, including the Supreme Court, will bear the Eisenhower stamp as it is reflected through the leading lawyers themselves rather than — which is more customary — through the politicians.

IRONIC TOUCH A slight flavor of irony attaches to this, in view of the fact that many bright lights of the ABA are among the most vociferous critics of the high court. The President is said to be among those who have noticed it and to be, in Queen Victoria's famous phrase, "not amused."

It is not surprising that the Eisenhower "upper level" judicial appointments should show strength and courage in the Bill of Rights area. Such conservatives who are completely sure of themselves frequently do. They also are often less inclined than impressionable liberals to forgive using any means to attain the ends sought.

What is surprising to the political trade is the trend toward liberal economic decisions in the Eisenhower courts. Politicians suspect that obvious depth and sincerity of Chief Justice Earl Warren's convictions as a governor during his many years as governor of California, have surprised some people at the White House.

General Brownell, who managed his campaign for president in 1944. Dewey was out of the United States and not available for comment this week, but in the past he has told this column that he made it a practice never to intervene in matters affecting the Eisenhower administration in Washington.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

ONE of the biggest antitrust suits planned by the Justice Department in years has been suddenly and mysteriously dropped. It was to have been filed in U.S. District Court in Milwaukee July 8 against three important gas companies—American Natural Gas, Peoples Gas Light & Coke, and Northern Natural Gas.

The Justice Department had the bill of complaint drafted and a press release all ready to issue. But the press release was never issued. The bill of complaint was never filed.

Suddenly Dead

Suddenly and mysteriously the antitrust suit was called off. It was the inside story of what happened. Dewey is very close to Attorney

Big Antitrust Suit Dies In Birth

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Focus On Gas

Others attributed the sudden cancellation to the fact that an antitrust case against the gas companies was in progress when the natural gas industry just at a time when the Eisenhower administration was trying to get the gas bill exempting the industry from federal regulations.

Regardless of who stopped the suit, here is the inside story of what happened. Tennessee G. a Transmission had obtained from Canada the right to tap its

vast gas reserves with a pipeline linking Canada to Texas. A two-way line could have used gas from the Gulf States when needed or gas from Canada when and where needed.

Secret Conference

With natural gas in short supply in the northern United States, Canadian gas was coveted. Various companies have been eyeing the vast and largely undeveloped wealth of Canada. So when the Eisenhower administration secured this concession, it ran into a secret monopoly move by the old Sam Insull holding in Illinois.

These three companies held a confidential meeting with Gardner Simonds, head of Tennessee Gas Transmission, at the Chicago Club on Dec. 11, after he offered to sell them gas.

The three who participated in this

closed-door conference were John Merriam of Northern Natural Gas, Ralph McVinty of American Natural Gas, and James Oates of Peoples Gas Light & Coke.

John Simonds by surprise by details of the stock in the new pipeline from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. Simonds emphatically said no.

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