THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Democratic Pacers Hunt Cracks In Adlai's Stable

By DORIS FLEESON

DEMOCRATIC SWEEPSTAKES: STEVENSON, HUMPHREY, KENNEDY, TRUMAN, SYMINGTON, DISALLE, BROWN, JOHNSON

WASHINGTON

A major purpose of the recent political travels of Sens. Hubert Humphrey, John Kennedy and Stuart Symington was to search for cracks in the old Adlai Stevenson support which could be widened for their own benefit. Each gave this effort the old college try; each has had to admit failure.

Humphrey and Kennedy have frankly courted the Stevenson aides of the 1952 and 1956 campaigns. They had no luck there, either. Members of this group are polite to one and all; they are just not joining any other aspirant for the 1960 nomination.

STEVENSONITES STAND PAT

Symington has been somewhat handicapped in this struggle because former President Truman, who appears so clearly to be in the Symington corner, is violently opposed to a Stevenson renomination. Indeed, Truman's support of Symington often appears to owe more to a desire for a compromise candidate to oppose Stevenson than to warm enthusiasm for the senator from Missouri.

With the Stevenson cadre standing pat for the present, the three open Democratic contenders have been pitching their appeal more and more clearly to those elements in key states whose admiration for the former Illinois governor twice put him over. But despite occasionally fervent applause, their listeners continue to say to reporters and their own leaders that they saw no reason yet to give up on Stevenson.

Stevenson himself continues to wish them all well and to say that he is not a candidate. This is the only possible position for him and commits him to nothing.

The result is that the hard-working Democratic contenders have still to find a reservoir of delegate strength. The South is off limits and will be even more so when Senate leader Lyndon Johnson carries out his plan to revive a civil rights bill.

The possibility of deciding the issue in the preferential primaries worsened last week. Gov. Edmund (Pat) Brown of California became more vocal about his intention of going to the convention as a favorite son and Gov. Michael DiSalle of Ohio began to toy with the same idea.

BREAK IN THE CLOUDS

A relaxed attitude, and perhaps less instead of more campaigning, may be indicated for the present vanguard. Yet they will be reluctant to lose any momentum they have gained, and all have other travels scheduled for the near future. One old pro insists all would be better advised to save their energies and let genial Jim Farley types peddle their wares for them until some break in the clouds appears.

For all his impulsiveness, Truman has so far managed not to commit himself openly to Symington and against others. But just as the Stevenson supporters reveal themselves by the help they refuse to other candidates, the old associates of Truman show their hand with pro-Symington arguments.

The former President seems always to be reaching new peaks in personal popularity, but what that means politically is open to argument. And some of the Truman loyalists could be dangerous friends for the candidate they want to join.

The General Assembly Does Its Duty

Passage of North Carolina's first minimum wage law yesterday was an act of statesmanship and social responsibility.

It added generously to the luster of the South's most progressive state and gave the General Assembly's 1959 record an enduring mark of excellence.

The figure of 75 cents an hour is modest. An employe working 40 hours a week is only guaranteed a weekly wage of $30. This is merely $1,500 a year, and yet it is 12.5 per cent above North Carolina's 1958 per capita income of $1,333.

Even this modest adjustment will boost the purchasing power of an estimated 55,000 Tar Heels by $16½ million a year. Obviously, the whole economy will benefit.

This will occur in spite of the many exemptions—some of them unwise—written into the law by the House of Representatives.

It was in the House that the fearful voices and discordant pugnacities of opponents reached radical peaks of fatalism. There was lacking in this opposition a thoroughgoing critical analysis of the facts of life in an industrial society. A prosperous future for North Carolina simply cannot be built upon the base of a low-wage economy.

Fortunately for the future of the state and its people, there were new stirrings of conscience in this legislature unlike any North Carolina has experienced in the last quarter century. Perhaps it would be presumptuous to describe these new stirrings as flowering liberalism, although liberal values were most assuredly involved. Actually, the success of the minimum wage law reflected something more basic—hardheaded practicality and a rational faith in the resources and resourcefulness of a growing state.

This is the spirit—so typically Tar Heel in character—that has risen so often to save North Carolina from the ruts of reaction.

The state owes much to the three House members who introduced the bill and fought so valiantly against terrible odds for its passage—Reps. Sam Burrow of Randolph, Steve Dolley Jr. of Gaston and Frank N. Patterson Jr. of Stanly. It owes a large debt of gratitude to their allies in both the House and Senate who guarded it well against the most ferocious lobbying onslaught aimed at any single piece of laudable legislation during the 1959 session. It is equally indebted to Gov. Luther H. Hodges who was battling for a state minimum wage law as early as 1955. It ought to be remembered, too, that Gov. William B. Umstead recommended such a law in 1953 to the dismay of certain arch-conservative admirers.

Minimum wage bills have been introduced and defeated in at least seven sessions of the North Carolina General Assembly. This year, as in the past, the crucial test was in the House. A single vote flushed it out of committee. It was cast by Chairman Ed Wilson and was perhaps the most important single vote of the 1959 session.

Yesterday's 42-6 vote in the Senate represented a final triumph of logic for a necessary instrument of progress. It was a ringing answer to a social and economic challenge and every Tar Heel ought to be a little proud today.

Adenauer Holds Fast To Hard-Bought Handiwork

By MARQUIS CHILDS

BONN, Germany

Over this capital of 350 million Germans of the Federal Republic there hangs today an air of doubt and uncertainty that is like the low-lying mists of the Rhine. It is a sense that nothing will ever be quite the same again. It is partly to allay this uncertainty that Secretary of State Christian Herter is stopping here for four hours Saturday on his way to Geneva. He will have his first meeting with Chancellor Konrad Adenauer.

CHANGE IN THE AIR

It may be better or it may be worse in the future. But the Germany of Adenauer, the Germany that worked with such concentrated fury to rebuild from the ruins of the war, is passing. Even those who want most to deny this cannot but admit that change is in the air and where it will stop is anyone's guess.

In giving up the chancellorship, Adenauer, at 83, has no intention of surrendering power. On the contrary, by moving to the presidency, regarded as one of the shrewdest maneuvers in the long career of the Old Fox, Adenauer intends to maintain his dominant influence over the policies of the government and the direction of his Christian Democratic party.

ODDS AGAINST ADENAUER

Although the odds are heavily against it — ten to one in the estimate of a knowledgeable observer — he may even succeed in putting his own man, Franz Etzel, minister of finance, in the chancellorship. But for all his skill and resourcefulness he will lack the powers and the far-reaching patronage of the chancellor's office.

A large majority of the Christian Democrats in the Bundestag who will elect the new chancellor at the end of the summer favor Minister of Economics Ludwig Erhard. While Adenauer may be able to checkmate him, and no one minimizes his cunning, Erhard seems almost certain to be the next chancellor. The ominous slogan, "Time for a change," is heard even in high places in the chancellor's own party.

GLISTENING SYMBOL

Erhard, with his great, glistening fat face, is a symbol of prosperous, revived Germany and, as such, he is far and away the party's best vote-getter. To sacrifice him to the chancellor's opposition would seem to be a form of political suicide, yet in the curious politics of the Federal Republic anything can happen.

Erhard is far from bursting with a desire to change the Adenauer policies. He has indicated that he will keep most of the cabinet and, in particular Foreign Minister Heinrich von Brentano, who has faithfully followed the Adenauer line even when with abrupt shifts and sudden turns it has caused him pain and humiliation.

CAUTIOUS PROGENITORS

But, nevertheless, there will be alterations. In the Foreign Office and elsewhere new centers of authority are forming, prepared to accept the changes that the negotiations with the Russians this spring and summer are almost certain to bring. As discussed in private those changes are at a minimum: accepting East German agents acting in behalf of the Russians on the access routes to West Berlin and the creation of a commission of East and West Germans on cultural and economic affairs looking eventually to free elections and unification. If this looks like a long step toward de facto recognition of the East German regime at least in the transitional phase, then, say the cautious progenitors of a new policy, that is the reality and it must be accepted.

TRAGIC VIEW

Inherent in the German temperament is a passionate desire for security, for the unshakeable guarantee, the everlasting assurance. Adenauer's deep-seated fear is that if the ties that bind Germany to the West and link Berlin with the free world are altered in even the slightest degree all his work will be undone. Then the restless German people will be freed to bargain for the highest stakes between East and West, with the inevitable end: another and final catastrophe. And Adenauer is not alone in this tragic view of the perils in altering one single brick in the edifice erected with so much sweat and toil.

HAUNTING MEMORIES

Seen from this perspective, the present in-between phase is, above all, a crisis of confidence — a crisis not so much between Germany and allies such as Britain with a desire to ease the cold war, but among the Germans themselves. The haunting memories of the recent past and of a Germany insensate and frenzied, although they rarely come into polite conversation, are an omnipresent backdrop. No one is more aware of that backdrop than the chancellor himself.

SAFE BRIDGE

This distrust may be accentuated by Adenauer's age and his reluctance to have his handiwork tampered with. In a more hopeful view a safe bridge can be built between the Adenauer era and the future. Germany will remain within the framework of West even though that framework is somewhat altered, and the German people will develop a free society on sure foundations. That is the hopeful vision, but don't ask anyone in Bonn at this particular moment in history to say that it will come about.

VON BRENTANO
Many Painful Changes

Sir Winston Tries To Tip-Toe In Vain

Sir Winston Churchill, evidently, is not the kind of man who can tip-toe in and out of the country without waking everybody to his presence. However, stealthy or "private" his visit, the public eye has fixed itself on him. He has been front-page news every day.

Cameras and pencils have laboriously followed Sir Winston out of a BOAC jet, down a red carpet to the President's plane, into Washington and the White House, out to Walter Reed Hospital and through the eyes of Mr. Hagerty, White House press aide, to the bedsides of Dulles and Marshall. His magnetism doesn't wear out.

The remarkable thing is that although not a single word has left official lips about a "purpose" for his visit, theories have mushroomed right and left. Some say the great man has defied his doctors, who told him to stay at home, to whisper a kind of international swansong into President Eisenhower's ear. No doubt we could use his advice. And it makes high drama to think this may be true.

But we prefer to think of him as a visitor with nothing more pressing to do than smoke his cigars, drink his brandy, and swap a few war stories with Ike and his other friends. Certainly, if Sir Winston had listened very carefully to his doctors it would have been the first time. He is notoriously reckless with his health. If there were not dozens of glorious books, speeches, pictures and acts of political mavericky to remember him by, he would be remembered as the scornfully anti-puritan octogenarian who gave the following formula for a long life:

"Eat a lot, drink a lot, and sleep a lot—preferably in the daytime."

A Modest Proposal For The Summit

On a hot May afternoon in Charlotte, the blood is not racing over the news from France. We note that a certain doctor in Algiers may shoot Gen. de Gaulle, who by turn says that Algeria may soon be "pacified." Even for persistent tastes in exotic politics it is, we admit, a bore.

The word from France is not all dull, however, and is for once more elementally French than either Gen. de Gaulle or the army.

It is in the clackety catacombs of the Paris subway that the news is hot. The wine-growers are after the National Committee of Defense Against Alcoholism, a ghost from the administration of Pierre Mendes-France, which has since 1954 pestered the Parisians about the perils of their daily wine quota. The committee does this by plastering the subways with signs saying, "Never more than a single litre of wine per day . . . Don't sink into alcoholism."

The other day, the wine-growers, their tolerance at an end, denounced the propaganda as "unpatriotic, subversive, and bad for business." So much for it. The minister of Agriculture, M. Houdet, has been instructed by the cabinet to "harmonize" the interests of the wine growers with those of the anti-alcohol lobby.

With French wine-growers complaining of "under-consumption," it seems time to unveil the brilliant plan for world amity proposed to us by a brilliant friend over a brilliant bottle of Loire wine last summer. Suitable to solve both "under-consumption" in France and the over-consumption of political worries of a short-tempered world, his idea was a sort of Marshall Plan with French wines. It would put choice bottles of vin at nominal cost on tables from Omaha to Irkutsk, hoping that the balms of this nectar would make us all think more of the vineyard and less of the more secular political issues.

It is a modest proposal. But we would point out its most obvious virtue, of many. Gen. de Gaulle is said to hope that he can be the instrument by which East and West solve their grievances. This is the old man's chance—all thought out in the heat of a May afternoon in Charlotte. And at the very instant when diplomats are laboring drily to draw up agenda for the Summit.

It Figures

"(Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Archibald) MacLeish, who started out as a Yale quarterback and captain of water polo, talks in simple, unpedantic terms."—William Glover in an AP dispatch.

Well, in water polo it's be brief or drown.

'Well – Ha Ha – None Of Us Is Perfect'

People's Platform

League Proposes Voting Machines

Charlotte

Editors, The News:

Enclosed is a letter sent this date to the County Commissioners.

—MRS. H. D. DUNBAR.

Gentlemen:

The League of Women Voters of Charlotte formally requests:

1—That an item be included in the county budget for 1959-1960 for the purchase of voting machines for all precincts of Mecklenburg County.

Explanation: It is estimated that 184 machines will be needed. Cost of each machine: Approximately $1,800 delivered (bids to be requested). Total cost estimate is $331,200, which may be financed over a period of time, as much as 20 years. Details to be worked out with company from whom purchased.

2—As an alternative, that the citizens of Mecklenburg County be given an opportunity to vote, to determine whether or not they are in favor of securing voting machines. This voting to be done at the next proposed election when bonds are being asked for building schools.

3—That school boards be asked to provide space in all school buildings for storage for voting machines. Space should also be provided in all other public buildings used as polling places.

Explanation: This would cost little, and would eliminate any problem of transportation.

We urge that you give this matter your sincere and immediate attention based on the need for voting machines as a modern facility to assure accurate, immediate returns for each election.

—MRS. H. D. DUNBAR
President, League of Women Voters.

Chiropractors Find News 'On The Go'

Henderson

Editors, The News:

We are grateful for the terrific coverage that you gave the North Carolina Chiropractic Association Convention in Charlotte on April 30, May 1 and 2.

Over 200 members enjoyed reading The News while in Charlotte and they agreed that The News is really on the "go".

—DR. SADIE C. JOHNSON,
Secretary, North Carolina Chiropractic Association, Inc.

Quote, Unquote

"There are few things wholly evil, or wholly good. Almost everything, especially of governmental policy, is an inseparable compound of the two."
— Abraham Lincoln, 1848.

From The Denver Post

KEEP IT SPECIAL

Every Monday, when we return to our desks to pick up the thread of events and try to force intelligent comment out of our cold typewriters, we reflect briefly what a wonderful day Sunday was—and then go on to other things.

It certainly hasn't occurred to us in a long time to write an editorial about Sunday. Ordinarily, Sunday needs about as much defense as Mother—maybe less.

Sunday is a Special Day. It's a day for feeling reverent, in and out of church. It's a day for feeling love, for things like sunshine and our fellow human beings. It's a day for special dinners, and family outings, and loafing around not doing much of anything, in a special Sunday sort of way.

We have taken it for granted that everybody—even the poor souls who had to man the emergency stations, the hospitals, the drugstores, the movie theaters—felt that way.

Now we read that representatives of Denver supermarkets and the grocery clerks union have been dickering over pay schedules for the extra work that will be necessary in the event the supermarket operators decide to remain open on Sundays.

We hope they change their minds. Sure we'll agree that there's a certain amount of inefficiency in leaving all those stores idle one day a week, but a certain amount of inefficiency is what distinguishes human beings from machines.

Not that we take a bluenosed view. Not that we want any legal prohibitions against Sunday opening. We don't think people go to church on Sunday because they can't go shopping. We just hate to see any development that tends to make Sunday more like the other six days of the week.

As long as Sunday remains different, we say thank Heaven for it. If we don't all keep it holy, we can all keep it special.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Truman Rolls Back Pages Of History

INDEPENDENCE, Mo.

A guided tour through the Truman Library by the man who so vigorously molded American history is a fascinating experience. Harry Truman knows every picture, every memento, every book in his library, and keeps up a running fire of humorous, caustic comment about men and events. It's like rolling back the pages of history.

Birthday Tour

The tour was shortly before Mr. Truman's 75th birthday. The former President talked rapidly.

"We played a little joke on Winston Churchill," he said, pointing to a photo of Churchill and himself. "He didn't realize the picture was taken standing in front of a painting of the old USS Constitution defeating the British Guerriere in the War of 1812.

"It's one of my most prized possessions," added Mr. Truman, and when I deciphered Churchill's scrawled inscription I could understand why. It read:

"To President Truman whose decisive strike against aggression in Korea turned the fortunes of the free world to sure hope of peace."

Picture Of Dalai Lama

Nearby was a collection of Presidential trophies—a bear's foot, canes from various Democratic conventions, souvenir plates featuring Truman's picture, and the replica of a heavy chain.

"That's just a collection of tripe," said the former President, "except for that chain. My father used one like that to haul logs in the early days of Missouri."

In the spacious entrance of the library was a bronze bust of FDR and the table used in San Francisco on which the United Nations Charter had been signed a few weeks after Truman became President.

"This is the rarest picture of all," said Mr. Truman, pointing to a gift from the Dalai Lama of Tibet — a photo of the Lama himself. Alongside it was a scarf worn by the Dalai Lama, a picture of General de Gaulle, and another of President Bustamante of Peru.

"The job of being President is really six jobs," explained the man who ought to know. "And I tried to illustrate it with these exhibits. First the President is the chief executive," he pointed to a photo of a cabinet meeting, a copy of the budget as big as a Manhattan phone book, which he, when in office, had known from cover to cover.

"Second, he's chief of state," continued Mr. Truman, showing photos of Prime Minister Nehru of India, Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, the Queen of England, and President Aleman of Mexico, all being greeted by Truman in Washington.

"Then he's domestic chief, legislative planner, head of his political party, and Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces," explained the former President as we passed four more exhibits.

We paused before the photos of the top commanders of World War II.

"Omar Bradley," said Mr. Truman, "was the best field commander in history. Gen. George Marshall was the greatest planner. His plans won the war."

Pacific Victor

Skipping over a photo of Gen. Eisenhower, he pointed to Adm. Nimitz: "This man," he said, "won the war in the Pacific—despite 'god'," and he pointed to Gen. Douglas MacArthur.