

EDITORIALS

AMERICAN CYNICISM

An eloquent example of the difference between Americanism in principle and Americanism in practice is supplied by the American Legion, that large, active and influential national association of war veterans, which will be much larger and more powerful as it adds to its membership millions of the veterans of World War II. In its first post-war convention it evaded the question of what to do about the five southern states in which no Negroes can become members of the Legion. Despite some pressure the convention took no action whatever on the issue.

Though it busied itself with many other vital national problems, and adopted resolutions, and let the nation know how it stood on assorted issues, it left alone a problem concerning its own policy. Its failure to come to grips with this problem, which in itself is a shameful commentary on the Americanism which the Legion so boldly proclaims and champions in and out of season, gives a picture of the deep-seated cynicism of America wherever color is involved, since the American Legion is a good cross-section of the white male American citizenry of a certain age range.

The typical American cynicism and sophistry are apparent especially from this angle. A majority of the Legion membership is undoubtedly opposed to the barring of Negroes from membership in those states where this discrimination is practiced. But the Legion was set up on the "state's rights" principle, each state organization having the privilege to determine certain internal policies. Which means that the "right" to spit in the faces of many thousands of Negro veterans is a more sacred right than the right of those veterans to enjoy the privileges of a veterans' organization.

If there is anything more tenderly and deferentially handled in America than the divine right of discrimination and injustice to non-whites, what is it? All the nation above the Mason and Dixon's line has worked assiduously for sixty years to erase the blot of Sherman's march and the Reconstruction, and is still on the job. The South, huh, won the war, and State's Rights take precedence over human rights

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STOP THE DRAFT NOW

News from Selective Service headquarters in Washington last week was great. As a concession to the needs of the nation it was announced that persons pursuing graduate courses in the sciences or engineering, and those teaching such subjects, might have their induction deferred by local draft boards!

A most remarkable concession, in view of the fact that the war is over. How about the other boys and young men who must make up the quota of 50,000 draftees a month to fight the war that is over? How about even the potential chemists and physicists and engineers who have not reached graduate school; who are so young and so short-sighted as to be of high school and college age right now?

The American people are letting the military authorities go right along drafting boys and young men to finish the war with Germany and Japan. So far there has been no necessity for Congress to decide whether we want or need compulsory peacetime military training; nor will there ever be any necessity for such a decision as long as 600,000 men a year can be drafted under the present draft laws, which permit any youth who is eighteen or over and not in his senior year of high school to be drafted, just the same as though we were still fighting a two front war. And with no limit placed on his term of service.

THE CAROLINIAN

Published by The Carolinian Publishing Co. Entered as second-class matter, April 6, 1940, at the Post Office at Raleigh, N. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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C. D. HALLIBURTON, Editorials
CARL EASTERLING, Circulation Manager

Subscription Rates
One Year, \$2.00; Six Months, \$1.25
Address all communications and make all checks payable to The Carolinian rather than to individuals. The Carolinian expressly repudiates responsibility for return of unsolicited pictures, manuscript, etc., unless stamps are sent.
118 East Hargett St., Raleigh, N. C.

If we need universal peacetime military training, let's have a law, framed to take into consideration all the needs of the country and the rights of the young men. Until we have such a law, let us be fair and honest, and suspend the draft.

FISHBEIN TEARS HIS HAIR

Dr. Morris Fishbein, spokesman for the American Medical Association, has come out against President Truman's proposed national health program. No one who knew Dr. Fishbein or the official attitude of the Association was in the least surprised. The Association raises the cry "socialized medicine, regimentation, enslavement of physicians, violation of the sacred rights of doctor and patient," on the slightest hint of any attempt to modify the present traditional medical set-up in the interest of better medical care for the people as a whole.

The plan proposed by President Truman meticulously avoids any hint of the dire results predicted and decried by the vociferous and impassioned Dr. Fishbein; but that has nothing to do with it. He and his friends start yelling even before they find out what the proposal is. If it would change the status quo in any way, they are against it. They take the position that not only are the physicians the only ones who know anything about health, but that they have the God-given right to dictate the operation of everything connected with it, from soup to nuts.

After all, physicians are not demigods, but men, and the government does not exist to operate only for their welfare.

Health is not simply the concern of the doctor and the patient. It is a public matter and as such, comes at some points within the scope of society itself, as represented by government. This country needs more and better medical care, and on some basis more logical than it now operates. If the American Medical Association doesn't realize this, it's about time someone did. To be sure, we cannot have it without the doctors; but how long must we wait for them to be convinced?

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GOVERNOR ARNALL AND STATE'S RIGHTS

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GOVERNOR ARNALL AND STATE'S RIGHTS

No truer statement has ever been made by a politician than the one made in this state by Governor Arnall of Georgia when he said, "Most people who talk about State Rights really believe in the status quo." There is certainly no quarrel in this quarter with Governor Arnall's statement. But the good governor of Georgia is not consistent. He believes in state's rights himself, and he believes in the status quo. The only difference between him and those he criticises is that he sees that in certain respects the state's rights doctrine hurts the white South; but when the state's rights doctrine is trotted out as an explanation or excuse for perpetuating inequalities between the races, Arnall is with the rest of the boys. A few weeks ago it was Governor Arnall who publicly announced that the legal department of the State of Georgia had been ordered to fight the U. S. District Court decision that Negroes could not be barred from the Democratic primaries in his state.

It is Arnall's type which is farsighted and intelligent enough to realize that the South needs Federal aid, and is really acting foolishly when it permits its leading politicians to masquerade behind the moss-grown bulwark of state's rights. What he and certain others are trying to say to the South is: "You fools. If we just handle the thing right we can get all this good old Federal money and spend it the way we want to. Don't worry about the Negro. We can handle him. We have always found ways to do it. Washington always goes our way in the end, or lets us do as we please, after a little show of trying to safeguard the Negro's rights. The whole nation is committed to letting us handle our 'peculiar problem' in our peculiar way, though of course it can't afford to say so officially. Can't you understand? Of course the Negro will have to get a little of the benefit, but, after all, look how much we will get."



HIS RIGHTFUL PLACE



Second Thoughts

By C. D. HALLIBURTON

The big war is over, but not warfare. It would appear, at least in one's more pessimistic moments, that war never ends on this planet. If it was to be compared to a fire, then the fire is never out. At times it flares up into a great conflagration, which after causing great destruction, burns itself out, apparently. But there are still live coals glowing evilly beneath the ashes of destruction, and there is always a slight breeze can set going furiously again, and the selfishness and cruelty and fear and greed resident in human hearts can always supply more new fuel.

As of this day, British soldiers are killing Japanese for the Dutch. If there is not war going on in Indonesia, it is only because the Indonesians are too weak in the power of modern weapons and methods of warfare to put up a decent resistance. The Dutch are too weak too, but as Kallenborn said the other night, labor-ruled Britain feels that white domination of all parts of this planet is important enough to warrant her intervention in favor of the Dutch. There are too many brown men under the Union

Jack, who might get ideas should the Hitler-prostrated Dutch find it necessary to listen too respectfully to brown demands or complaints or pleas. Chinese Communists, backed by Russia, are fighting their brothers, who in turn are backed, or will be, by us. Two hundred thousand Reds are on the march. Is war over? On the contrary this country may be lucky to escape being drawn into an Asiatic full dress war, with Russia on the other side. Russia is imperialistic. Britain is imperialistic. Little Holland is imperialistic in mind, if not in body. Nationalist China is under the dictatorship of Chiang and a little group of his friends and advisers. Red China is being directed from Moscow. Russian troops are still in Manchuria.

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winsed we mean, since we don't need her, and now she is messing up all over eastern Europe. We don't know whether we want to put our faith in the machinery for peace or to get ready for the next and maybe the last World War. We don't like what's going on in Argentina and in Spain, but we don't know that there is anything we can do about it. The Atlantic Charter, proclaimed in the fervor of crusading, now embarrasses us. Labor and management fight each other. Race relations are a headache and a reproach. Congress does nothing about anything, except to try to find out why Pearl Harbor was a disaster of four years ago.

The war is over. The world is at peace. As they used to say a few years ago, Oh, yeah?



Lest We Forget.

By W. L. GREENE

The late Franklin D. Roosevelt will occupy a prominent place in the history of government because he could see that the political smoke screens of the status quo politicians. As he saw, he prophesied indirectly by stating subtle truths in a history making manner. His declaration that we have nothing to fear except fear itself is probably his best slogan of action.

The appropriateness of F. D. R.'s declaration is before us as we digest the best piece of news to be printed this week. The Sunday papers carried the story of the ninth annual session of the North Carolina Student Assembly and its greatest enemy's defeat. The assembly voted more than one resolution to North Carolina. The unanimous vote of the joint session to invite ALL colleges and universities of the state into the

next session was just what FEARMONGERS would run from. There were forty and eight fearmongers accounted for in the voting but for the first time in North Carolina, thank heaven, there were five and one half score children of light who felt the urge to seek the fourth freedom.

The big fearmonger who was the keynote speaker, parliamentary advisor, and all-round big brother to the assembly urged the students to eschew their new found freedom. He went on to suggest that they consult the administrators of the colleges from which might come those other students who had in the past been left out of the assembly because of the fears of the political hypocrites of the status quo stripe. Here we must be reminded. We must not forget that the

presidents, deans, et al. in the colleges from which the students came to the assembly did not consult with anyone about the actions that students would take. Members of the assembly were free to deliberate and enact their views into appropriate resolutions. What of the students who may be invited from the colleges hitherto left out?

There is rank poison in the suggestion that the administrative heads of the students assembly consult the administrative heads of the colleges to be invited. The college heads to be consulted are SUPPOSED TO BE AFRAID TO HAVE THEIR STUDENTS ACCEPT THE INVITATION. This FEAR is all we have to be afraid of. If we can witness the overcoming of this fear, democracy will start our way at last.

BETWEEN THE LINES

By DEAN B. HANCOCK FOR ANP

PEACE, IT'S BLUNDERFUL!

If the peace of Father Divine is wonderful, that which followed the cessation of world wide war is "blunderful." It is disheartening to note the interminable blunders of our diplomats and statesmen. It is hard to avoid the conclusion that such diplomacy as our higher-ups are evincing ill surely hurtle us into another world war.

When President Truman served notice that the atomic bomb was our private property and would be so utilized, he blundered terribly. When he attempted to make of a universal matter a private concern, he was attempting to contravene the principles which give promise of Wilkie's One World. He was appealing to fear, one of the basest of human instincts, and one which has been most instrumental in deluging this world in blood in wars without end.

Had President Truman invited all the nations into confidence and conference, the foundation would have been laid for international faith and good will. There can be no peace in a world of distrust and suspicions such as were aroused when we made an abortive attempt to monopolize the secrets of the atomic bomb. Once the President's pronouncement had been publicized, the atomic bomb became a "hot potato" and the attempts in a later conference to lay it down after the other nations had been insulted or chagrined at the thought that they were outsiders looking in on the wonder of the incoming atomic age.

Our position would not have been so defenseless had not all the nations cooperated in the discovery of the atomic bomb. All races and nationalities were represented in the research. The United States majored in financing the project but the combined help of the other nations was too great a factor for our country to arrogate unto itself sole ownership and management of the atomic secret. Our position became repulsive to the nations.

The keen-visioned Englishmen knew we had blundered and they made moves contradictory to our first assumptions. Seeing the error of position, President Truman calls a conference, not of the Big Three but of a Big Two and Half, United States, England and Canada, thus completing the insult to the other nations of the earth. Those which were not insulted — or who appeared not insulted — had eyes on dear Uncle Sam's never-failing exchequer. The lesser nations have axes to grind and will therefore not play up the insult they feel.

It is saddening to observe that the three that discussed the possibilities and powers of the atomic bomb were a Nordic bloc and hereby hung dreadful possibilities. Here is big blunder three. The veiled attempt to employ atomic energy to perpetuate white supremacy is doomed to failure. The most fortunate thing about his whole unfortunate situation is that here are so many Nordics who see the futility of the attempt to browbeat the nations into submission to Nordic supremacy is dangerous beyond expression. The biggest of all blunders will be in this veiled attempt to inaugurate a reign of fear, designed to permanently subjugate the darker peoples of the earth. Behind the scenes are sinister forces operating with deadly abandon and our statesmen are blundering blindly through their country right or wrong — God forbid that there is an American who is not! The ugly fact remains the greatness and glory of the British empire is apassed or passing.

Russia is the ascendant power in Europe and rises like Germany of old to challenge British greatness. In two world wars the United States helped Britain to put down the German threat to her far-flung influence and empire. Russia steps into the breach and it is extremely imperative that Russia be pushed back if the British power is not to be eclipsed. Recently Englishmen have been acknowledging the greatness of the United States and even accepting a subordinate place beside her.

When men like Churchill speak forthrightly and say that the United States has taken the lead, he has an eye to the future where in we will be called upon the third time to save the British empire from disintegration and ruin. It will be a big bloody blunder if this nation assumes responsibility for perpetuating the British empire and British colonial policy. Peace, it's blunderful!

SLOW UP—By Ruth Taylor

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Do you remember the carpet laying examples in your old arithmetic? You stumbled and puzzled over them for a long time, until you finally learned that you had allowed something for the stretch.

In solving the problem of living in these days of distress and strain, you have to do just that — allow for the stretch.

The tempo of existence is so fast, there is so much to be done, that there is an ever-present danger of overcrowding our lives, of taking on too much, of cramming our hours too full. We make a fetish of being busy and are so continually haunted by the hands of the clock that we do not do justice to anything we tackle.

Slow up. Plan your time so that there will be enough stretch to your day to take up the delays and unforeseen emergencies that will arise. Do what you can. See to it that whatever you do, you do thoroughly, but don't try to do the things you can't do. And don't try to crowd everything into one day.

You make haste best by going at an even pace, filling your time to the brim but not to overflowing. Make time for yourself by giving up some of the non-essentials, not adding to an already full schedule.

Leave time for living — for thinking — for recharging the batteries of your spirit. You need to be strong in body, clear in mind, and courageous in spirit. And you cannot be these three if you run on nerve alone. Coordinate yourself and conserve your energies, working hard — but all times for the stretch.

Do the best you can and trust in the goodness of Divine Providence for the rest, remembering the words of the Prophet Isaiah,

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

- "I'm strong and healthy—maybe because I wear two petticoats."—Mrs. Adelaide Hill, Fort Atkinson, Wis., celebrating 107th birthday.
- "I've never done anything different—except being a faithful smoker."—George Livermore, Ithaca, N. Y., celebrating his 101st year.
- "Political power, not bargaining, has become the mainstay of labor's ends."—Pres. Ira Masher, Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers.
- "Government's job is to help, not to direct."—Under Secretary of Commerce Alfred Schindler, in re. American business.
- "I know of no more sincere pacifists than American soldiers and veterans."—Gen. The Eisenhower, urging universal training.
- "The civilian prob' an."—Charles G. Bolte, American Veterans' Comm., to follow ex-GIs.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Rev. M. W. Williams

Subject: The Christian's Place in the Life of His Nation, Matt. 5:13-16; 43-48; 1 Peter 2:13-17.
Key Verse: "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." Ps. 122:1-2.
None of the beatitudes appear in the printed text of this lesson. Yet they are regarded as the subject of the whole fabric of that memorable sermon dealing with the different elements of excellence expected in the Christian to properly fulfill his place in the world, while he enjoys the accrued blessings. Very few times the church leaders get in hot water for shouldering others responsibilities, but most any time somebody is complaining about my rights and privileges, in cities and towns you can often hear — "We must have our rights" which, of course, no one should object. Along with those rights, however, goes responsibilities which, if not accepted, may cause a good deal of suffering. He was and is, after telling the Christians about the blessings which came to them as a result of their Christlike spirit. He changed their thoughts to the salt of the earth. The great and important place of salt was never questioned in relation to its preservation by any one of that day nor this. Many of the farmers are now killing hogs. They do not enjoy the privilege of cold storage, but they do know if they would keep their meat from rotting they must use plenty of salt. Hence the Christian in this or that community and the world. What would be the condition of the world today if the Christian church had folded up and not exercised its influence. From the time of the Mediterranean Civilization until now the Christian influence has served to steady human society, build churches, hospitals and make the communities livable. There is a possibility however that Christians can become so engrossed in worldly affairs that their influence may become similar to the salt in a salt-shaker which is so mixed with moisture that it will not come out when it is needed. It is there, but not available. The Christian life should be so lived that its influence will always be available (felt).
The Christian's designation as the Light of the world is a compliment which every Christian should highly prize. No one could question Christ on that declaration. In John 8:12, He declares that: He is the Light of the world — And as representatives of Christ, the Christian's presence in whatever sphere found should help some benighted soul TO SEE the real light of Jesus.
The kind of attitude the Christian take toward law and order depends upon his love of God and his knowledge of the origin of all laws and order. Rulers are not terrorists to good workers. Those who make laws and those who execute them should be imbued with the Christian spirit of brotherly love. Can this be possible in a day ylike this? This answer is yes. If the Christian Church robes itself in righteousness and prays for those who serve in public and private places where their acts affect the lives of others it will have an effect on the life of the whole nation for good. The prayers which followed the death of a recent President was a good illustration of what should and perhaps was done before his death. Frankly, I believe the Christian family should be led by the Holy Spirit in all things, and that their influence for good would be always in keeping with the principles for which Christ came.