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Forget The Tomorrows

Maybe a third world war is just around the corner.

Maybe an economic depression is inevitable.

Maybe the world is going to the dogs.

But we challenge anybody to take a drive through the Western North Carolina countryside, just now, and come back home believing it!

At the least, this season of beauty and promise makes today so well worth living that we can, for today, forget the tomorrows.

This Is News!

This is news!

A lot of people are voluntarily taking a cut in pay!

It is true that the reduction in pay many railroad and automobile workers are accepting is a matter of only a few cents an hour; it also is true that they are taking the cut on a basis of a drop in the living cost index, the basis on which they have been receiving raises for several years.

Nonetheless, it is extraordinary. For there are thousands of high school and college-age young people who never heard of such a thing before.

An Amazing Country

Only last fall Democrats and Republicans were calling each other names; members of each party were saying—and honestly meaning it!—that it would be a tragedy for the other to be given power.

But next month, scarcely half a year after the end of one of the bitterest political campaigns in this nation's history, the governors of the 48 states, Republican and Democrats alike, will answer the President's summons for a conference at the White House. There they will be given an extraordinary briefing on the situation in which the United States finds itself, so that national and state officials can work together for the common good of America.

Eisenhower, a Republican, will tell the Democratic governors all he tells the Republicans, and when they return to their own states, the Democratic executives will give the President as wholehearted support as the members of his own party.

It is an amazing country, this America of ours.

A New Turn In Affairs

What are the Russians up to?

The world is pop-eyed as it sees the Soviets suddenly appear all sweetness and light.

Here are some of the extraordinary things that have happened in the six weeks since Stalin's death:

Georgi Malenkov, the new prime minister, in his inaugural address, declared that "there is not one disputed or undecided question that cannot be decided by peaceful means on the basis of the mutual understanding of interested countries. That is our attitude toward all states, among them the United States of America."

The Russians intervened to obtain the release of nine British diplomats and missionaries held by the North Korean Communists since 1950.

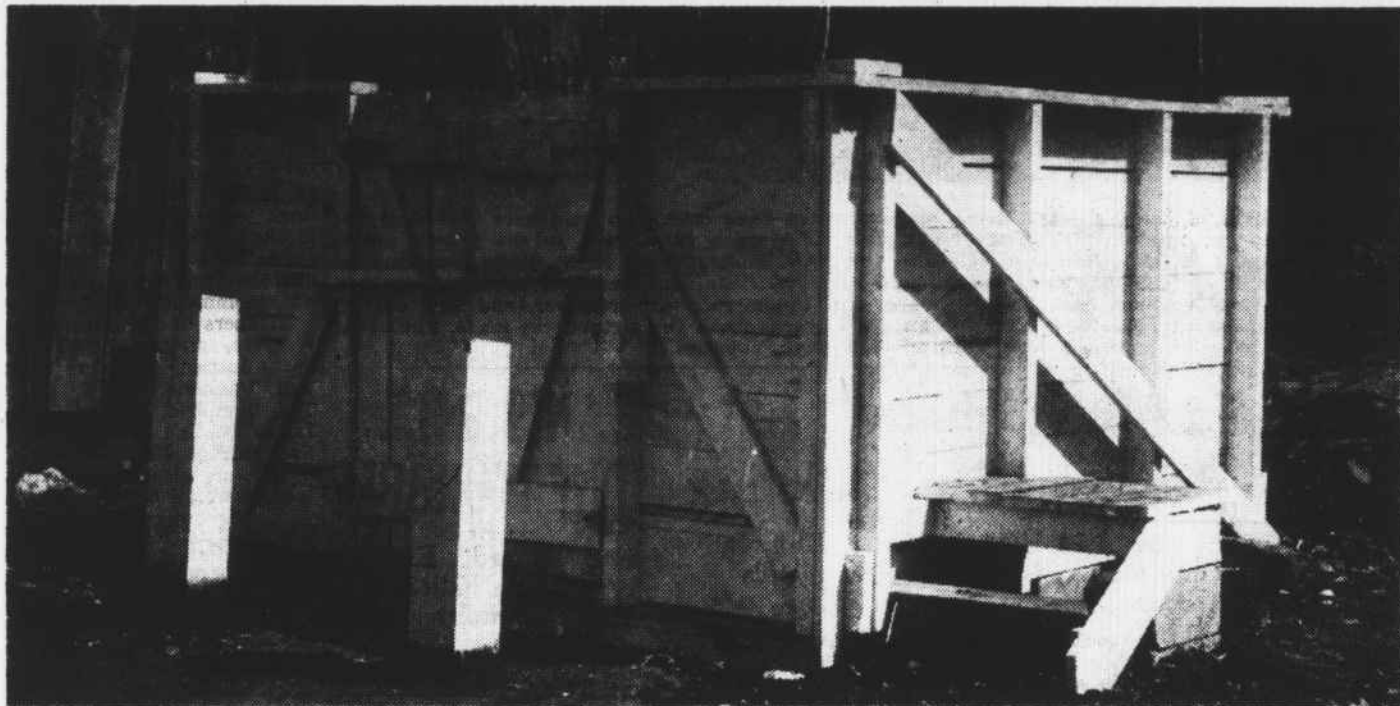
The Moscow radio referred admiringly to the teamwork in World War 2 of the Russians, British, and Americans to produce a "common victory".

The Soviet Union made an offer, which was accepted, to sit down and work out with the Western

This Was Changed



This is the way the trash dump to the rear of the Ashear Building looked a month ago.



And THIS is the way it looks today. The new bin was built by Belk's Department Store. If you think that the top photo looks familiar, you are right. It appeared on The Press' editorial page March 5 with the suggestion that "this needs changing . . .".

nations ways and means to avoid air incidents over Germany.

The Russians have proposed Big Four talks on the German peace treaty.

The Soviets agreed to the appointment of a Westerner, a Swede, as secretary-general of the United Nations.

A party of American newspapermen has been admitted to Russia and given a courteous reception.

Russia and Red China have released 171 captive Japanese fishermen.

And last Sunday the North Korean and Chinese Communists, apparently having acceded to U.N. demands which they previously brusquely refused, signed an agreement with U. N. negotiators for the exchange of wounded and sick prisoners of war.

All this friendliness, we are warned, should be taken with many grains of salt; we should not lower our guard. That is a sensible warning.

But it is equally important, if we really want peace, that we should meet friendliness with friendliness. For after all, there can be little doubt that at least a part of Stalin's refusal to cooperate was due to fear.

It may turn out that the Soviet dictatorship and Western democracies cannot live in the same world; that one must destroy the other. But however that may be, this truth a powerful America should never forget:

There can never be peace where there is fear.

Poetry

Editor
EDITH DEADERICK ERSKINE
Weaverville, North Carolina

Sponsored by Asheville Branch, National League of American Pen Women

NOSTALGIA

Green fires of the spring are lighting
On my homeland hills
And I not there to see them . . . yet
My hungry spirit fills
With the sight and scent of them—
How many years in April
I have climbed the Highlands hills
When oak tree, ash and maple
Blended in the fires of spring—
Light yellow, amber, rose
Accentuating jade of pines . . .
Where Cullasaja flows,
Crystal as the song of birds,
I long to make descent—
Circling behind the falls
To view again the tent
Of blue between the veils of foam—
Green fires on the hills
Are lighting now, and from afar
My kindred spirit thrills.

BESS HINSON HINES

Highlands and California.

Others' Opinions

LET'S KEEP OUR FORESTS GREEN

(Transylvania Times)

With thousands of acres of land in forests, Transylvania must at all times guard against forest fires, and more especially during this time of the year when the threat is so prevalent.

Our forests, all-purpose resources, must be protected! They must be kept green . . . green for beauty and relaxation of campers, picnickers and others . . . green for the protection of the watersheds . . . green for the wildlife inhabiting our forests, and green to produce timber.

So, when you are in the Pisgah or other forest lands, remember the ABC's of protection: "Always Be Careful!"

I always like to hear a man talk about himself because then I never hear anything but good.—Will Rogers.

STRICTLY

PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

Remember back when people had plenty of time . . . ? Time to talk, and to visit, and to spend family evenings reading aloud?

I wonder, sometimes, if all the modern conveniences, much as they add to the enjoyment of life, and all the time-saving gadgets, for which we seem to have traded our leisure, are worth that price?

But maybe it isn't these things that are to blame, but a change in our sense of values.

For what goes with our time? Isn't it true that a lot of it is taken up feverishly doing things that really don't matter?

That line of thought raises another question:

Were we ready for the switch that has taken place in government—a shift from a strictly representative form of government to a semi-democracy?

In the old days, the people—rather, a relatively small proportion of the male adults—elected representatives in whom they had confidence, and then left the decisions to those representatives. Whether the man chosen represented the people on the board of county com-

missioners, in the legislature, in congress, in the governor's mansion, or in the White House, the general attitude was that he knew better what was wise and right to do than the people who elected him.

Today it is otherwise. Today the public official is supposed to represent and carry out the opinions of the majority of citizens.

Personally, I think that is all to the good. I think the old system had plenty of faults and weaknesses. But I think our present-day system can and will work only so long as we have citizens who are informed, who can think straight, and who are big enough and unselfish enough to put the good of all ahead of the good of a few.

That puts a tremendously heavy responsibility on (a) the home, to produce men and women of character; (b) the school, to produce graduates with a keenly developed critical sense and the ability to think objectively; and (c) the press and other information media, to keep the people informed, and to keep the information they give the people completely free from opinion and prejudice.

News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

© By BOB SLOAN

The Eisenhower administration has been in office nearly three months. The pattern they plan to follow is becoming clearer each day. That is quite a compliment for their administrative ability. To take over the reins of government of the largest organization in the world and change its direction within 90 days is quite a feat. It has been accomplished by men who are working very hard at their task. What is this new road we are being guided toward and where does it lead? The what is fairly evident; the where is mere supposition on my part.

Our economy is going to be so charted in the future as to help those who have money or capital wealth. For example, interest rates are rising, the government is helping this by offering to pay interest of 3 1/4% on large bond issues—an increase of 3/4% over what the previous administration paid on similar financial paper. To the man who has money to lend, this trend toward a higher interest rate will be a boom. To the man, the little man, who perhaps has only an idea but wants to borrow capital to make his idea a reality this will be a depressing blow. It seems to me that in limiting the chances of the thousands of little men in our country with ideas we are moving backward from the idea of a free open and competitive market. Sure you have as good chance as the other man if you have the money, but we are going to make it harder for you to get the money, is what the new administration is saying.

The new tax cuts which are being proposed in the Reed bill follow the same pattern of really assisting those who have the wealth. As well as I could tell from the information I have seen in print the proposed Reed tax bill would save me about \$13 per year on my tax bill, while a man who makes \$10,000 will save over many times this.

There are many other examples that this administration will follow the philosophy of helping those who have already been successful.

It seems to me that the danger in this lies in the fact that this may again cause wealth of this nation to finally be controlled by a few. This was the situation which existed just prior to the depression of the thirties. Then 10% of the people in our country controlled 90% of our wealth. When that happens you do not have enough people purchasing consumers goods and your economy hits the skids.

Wouldn't it be better for the government to sort of serve as a balance wheel and see that the purchasing power of the nation

Continued on Page Three—

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through
the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Genuine New Orleans dark brown sugar, 22 lbs. for \$1.00 at Wright and Robinson's.—Adv.

Chas. Dowdle moved last week from the Smith house on the corner to the little house in front of G. A. Jones'.

Hon. Jeff May of Briartown was in the city yesterday.

25 YEARS AGO

Regardless of the snowfall Monday, poultry growers of the county flocked to Franklin with 8,464 pounds of poultry and carried back home money in the amount of \$1,708.33.

The 4-H Club Monday elected Miss Bess Hines president, Miss Christine Pierson vice-president, and Miss Eva Potts secretary.—Highlands item.

John Dills is now engaged in sawing lumber for a convict camp to be located on the Cullasaja about 14 miles from Franklin.

10 YEARS AGO

The Chamber of Commerce, the Lions and the Rotary Club will hold a joint dinner meeting on April 25 to make plans for the season.

The Macon County Board of Education announced today that the board has taken action adopting the nine-months school term.

Misses Imogene Landrum and Katherine Long of W. C. U. N. C., spent the spring holidays here recently.