

# Senator Sam J. Ervin Says . . .

WASHINGTON—The Senate may be called upon soon to ratify the Genocide Convention, a treaty which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 10, 1948, and which was submitted by President Truman to the Senate for its consideration on June 16, 1949.

Shortly thereafter, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee appointed a subcommittee composed of very able Senators who conducted hearings on the treaty, and reported to the full committee that the United States should ratify the treaty in any event unless the Senate adopted four substantial understandings and one substantial declaration. In essence, these reservations sought to clarify some of the vagaries of the treaty that are shrouded in uncertainty. Since this report was made, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the Senate itself by inaction have refused to ratify this treaty.

Recently, however, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has revived the issue of ratification and notwithstanding that there has been a substantial change of cir-

cumstances which would make what was unwise in 1950 to be wise in 1970, the treaty may come before the Senate soon.

Basically, the treaty makes genocide a punishable crime under international law. When a nation ratifies the treaty, persons charged with genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in this document would be subject to a criminal trial in a tribunal in his own nation or a foreign nation. Such a tribunal would have jurisdiction over constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials and private individuals who are accused of committing genocide or any other acts enumerated in the treaty.

I certainly do not question the good intentions of those who drafted the Genocide Treaty or those who favor its ratification, yet it seems to me that the Senate should not permit itself to be persuaded by the good intentions of the proponents of this treaty to radically alter our entire constitutional system of government at a time when it is manifest that a substantial number of the American people do not wish to expand their international obliga-

tions and at a time when the existing laws of the United States and its several states are adequate to punish all of the physical acts of violence denounced by the Genocide Treaty. I am concerned, too, that in ratifying the treaty we shall place Americans on trial at the mercy of foreign tribunals which may not operate under the "due process" safeguards accorded to the accused under our legal system.

Witness what would happen if the Senate should ratify the Genocide Treaty during our present intervention in Southeast Asia. American soldiers fighting under our flag could be tried and punished in a foreign court—even in courts of our warring enemy—for killings and wounding of members of the military forces of our warring enemy. Thus, American soldiers and pilots who kill and wound North Vietnamese soldiers or members of the Vietcong might be subject to trial and punishment by a new court established pursuant to this treaty.

Moreover, the ratification of the treaty raises many other serious legal issues about the jurisdiction of our federal and state courts in respect to virtually every alleged homicide. It is interesting to note that the American Bar Association has twice urged the Senate to reject the Genocide Treaty—once in 1949 and again in 1970.

Strangely enough, the chief reason cited by proponents for the ratification of the treaty is that it will improve our image in the eyes of Russia and other totalitarian parties to the treaty and that this should be enough. This is dubious logic, but more important, it ignores all of the



**BASKETBALL CAMP**—Dean Smith, coach at University of North Carolina Tar Heels, will headline instruction for the All Star Basketball Camp at North Carolina Wesleyan College, Rocky Mount, July 26-31. Spaces for this session are still available. Additional information may be obtained by writing to All Star Basketball Camps, South Hill, Va. 23970.

### OPTOMETRIC CONGRESS WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH

Dr. A. F. Downum, an Edenton optometrist, attended the 63rd annual spring congress of the North Carolina State Optometric Society here at the Blockade Runner June 7-9.

The happiest life is to be found around a contented fireside, where the family lives at peace with itself, its fellowmen and with God.

### Golf News

By LEW DEXTER

I haven't had a column the past two weeks because I have been so busy trying to get the greens in shape and getting my family off to Italy and I just haven't had time. I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped in getting my wife off to Italy. I can't express how we felt about what you did for us. You really astonished us with your generosity. It is most gratifying to know that one has so many friends and it also shows what the people of Edenton are made of. We would like to express our most sincerest appreciation.

Two more holes-in-one at the club. On Saturday, June 6, Bob Ashley got one on No. 5, and on May 26 L. T. Telford of Raleigh got one on No. 2. Nice going, fellers.

I would now like to start setting up my Junior Clinic. This clinic will be in two age groups. So I need to know how many want to take this clinic and what their ages are. So if any of the young set who want to attend would please call me so that I can book you, I can start the clinic the second week in July. The clinic will consist of six lessons and there will be a charge of \$6.00 to be paid in advance. Each lesson will take from one hour to an hour and a half. There will be lessons on grip, stance, swing, wood, irons, putting, sand shots, chipping, rules. So please call right away, so that I will know how many want to attend.

The pool is now open at the club and we have had a lot of sun-bathers already. We have a can drink and cookie machine set up at the rear of the club house so those who want drinks, please get them there as no bottles are allowed at the pool. Bring the family out. Swim, then cook your steaks in the picnic area beside the pool and have a nice day.

### HOSPITAL PATIENT

W. B. McCabe is seriously ill in Norfolk General Hospital, Norfolk, Va. He is the husband of Mrs. Elizabeth Bond McCabe, daughter of Mrs. E. W. Bond of Edenton.

Exercise will extend life, if you care to extend it.

A one-track mind is not a real handicap if you are sure you are on the right track.

### Services Are Held For Mr. Sutton

Funeral services were held at 3 P. M. Sunday for Willie Seth Sutton, 88, 930 North Broad Street, who died Friday at his home following an illness of several months. He was a retired carpenter.

Mr. Sutton, a native of Chowan County, was born February 14, 1884, son of the late Seth Stephenson and Mary Penelope Bazemore Sutton. He was the widower of Mrs. Maggie Ward Sutton.

Surviving is a son, William Leonard Sutton of Pogooson, Va.; three daughters, Mrs. Gwendolyn Smith and Mrs. Doris Hughes, both of Edenton, and Mrs. Mary Edgar of North Monroe, La.; one brother, L. F. Sutton of Santee, S. C.; 10 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

He was a member of Macedonia Baptist Church. The services were held in Williford Memorial Chapel with Rev. Virgil Wilson in charge. Burial was in Beaver Hill Cemetery.

Williford Funeral Home had charge of arrangements.

Economy is the axe that should be applied to the fellow's expenditures.

### Social Security Questions-Answers

Q. Will I be able to get Medicare before my husband is 65? He is only 62 and is still working. I am already 65, but I have never worked.

A. Yes. Your husband can file a claim for reduced social security payments now so you can qualify on his record. Neither of you will be able to draw a monthly check until he retires but you can have Medicare. If your husband does not draw any checks before age 65, the reduced benefit rate established at age 62 will be adjusted to the full amount.

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