

Raleigh Round-Up

Comments On Speaker For The Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner

By KIDD BREWER

RUMBLINGS . . . It may be hard to detect, but there's more than a little discontent about the selection of Florida's Senator Spessard L. Holland as this year's keynote speaker for the Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner in Raleigh.

And the rumbling (or is it grumbling?) is coming from those who lean towards the ultra-liberal wing of the Democratic party. Don't let anybody fool you; Senator Holland is nobody's liberal.

On the other hand, no accurate political yardstick would measure him up as ultra-conservative. He's a Southern Democrat, a States Rights Democrat — and more important, he's an influential Democrat — even though he never likes to make a big splash.

NO SHIRT-TEARER . . . In the campaign of 1952, Senator Spessard Holland stayed on the Democratic team, but like the late Senator Willis Smith he didn't tear his shirt for nominee Adlai Stevenson. And, as was the case with Willis Smith, Senator Holland freely acknowledged that he didn't like some of the things that Stevenson was saying.

Carrying the story a little further, Holland was held in contempt by the more liberal Democrats of Florida because he said what he

thought about the Democratic nominee.

Followers of former Senator Claude Pepper had plenty to say about Holland in 1952, but Holland did not receive as much criticism as did Senator Smith in North Carolina.

This was due largely to the fact that Senator Holland was not elected in a bitter campaign.

CLOSE FRIENDS . . . Our information is that Senator Holland was probably the late Senator Smith's closest personal friend when Smith was the junior senator from this state. They were almost inseparable — on the senate floor and socially. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Holland have maintained their close friendship. Senator and Mrs. Holland visited Mrs. Smith at Morehead City last summer.

OIL . . . Holland's main — though not his only — peeve with Stevenson in 1952 was Adlai's unalterable stand on the so-called Tidelands issue. Stevenson added his voice to the chorus shouting that the Tidelands issue was a "Republican giveaway."

Our reports are that Holland resented that strongly because it was Holland who had introduced the Tidelands bill in the senate in 1952, and it was he who guided it to approval by the senate. President Truman pocket-vetoed the bill after it was passed by congress.

If you recall, Holland made a speech or so during the autumn of 1952 setting the record straight, never taking what you would call a direct poke at Stevenson, but nevertheless disagreeing with him strongly.

He explained gently but thoroughly that the Tidelands bill was Democratic legislation and that more Democrats than Republicans supported it in 1952.

The rest is history, as they say. Came Eisenhower's election and the congress again passed the Tidelands bill. This time it was signed into law.

SHARED . . . Now here is something you can write home about in discussing Senator Holland's forthcoming visit. His position was shared by both North Carolina senators and by eleven — count them — eleven of our 12 congressmen. Only Rep. Thurmond Chatham voted against the Tidelands bill.

Note: It's not often pointed out, but the 1949 N. C. legislature unanimously memorialized the congress to pass the Tidelands bill — to protect North Carolina's inherent right to its coastland areas. Furthermore, Attorney General Harry McMullan was very active in the National Association of Attorneys General when the bill was prepared. All but three or four state attorneys

general out of 48 approved of the Tidelands bill.

CONSERVATIVE . . . On this bill, and on most others, Senator Holland was listed as conservative — or reactionary — by such groups as the CIO Political Action committee. Right? The same is true as regards Georgia's Senator Dick Russell who was the Jefferson-Jackson Day speaker last year.

It does appear that the conservatives in North Carolina at least have enough control to pick the speakers for the annual party feast.

FOLLOW - UP . . . The state insurance dept. has notified the Carolina Motor club that they are in violation of the state insurance law in providing free insurance and must collect for the insurance portions of memberships it has given state officials.

This is one benefit that has resulted from the little investigation that had its beginning right here in this little old column.

It is to be hoped that more benefits will follow.

WONDERING . . . Some of Kerr Scott's avowed best friends are beginning to wonder if the Squire of Haw River really is going to run against Alton Lennon. And some few of his most ardent admirers are beginning to cool off in their enthusiasm for him to run.

It's not that they don't love him any more. And . . . it's not that they wouldn't like to see him in the U. S. senate.

They've begun to think a bit about a subject that Kerr Scott has been thinking about for a long time: his health.

No matter what you may hear, Scott was pronounced "fit as a fiddle" by his physicians recently. But it's no secret that Kerr Scott has thought considerably about his health in recent years.

Here's Scott's reasoning: He knows that he can't take things easy. If there's a fight going on anywhere within a country mile, he wants to be in on it.

And he usually gets in it.

W. K. Scott knows that his temperament is very similar to that of the late Senator Smith's. He realizes that Willis Smith went to Washington a healthy and well man — but drove himself literally to death in trying to carry out his responsibilities.

Scott and Smith had vastly different philosophies. But as men, many similarities. All of this is bound to be going through Kerr Scott's mind these dark wintry days.

And, what's more — as we have pointed out here before — Miss Mary isn't hankering for Husband Kerr to get into any more dog-fights.

That's why a great many people who are so sure Kerr Scott will announce his candidacy come February 10 might just get fooled.

The mountaineer, his wife, and six-year-old son made one of their rare visits to town. Stopping at the local tavern the mountaineers ordered "two whiskeys."

"What's the matter, Paw," the youngster said, "ain't Maw drinkin'?"

The S. S. United States—Schrafts Afloat or, Vive L'ile De France! and Several Enthusiastic Hail (Queen) Marys! Being A Few Observations On Three Famous Ocean Liners

By DUNCAN MacDOUGALD, JR.

(Continued From Page Three)

able position in the American Merchant Marine, since it is (1) the newest, biggest, fastest (and most air-conditioned) American liner, (2) the work is much more interesting than similar employment on land, (3) the pay is excellent; and (4) it is, or least it should be, a distinct honor to be a member of the crew of the flagship of the American nation and its citizens.

I spoke above of the "Queen Mary," which I came home on recently, and it is a pleasure to report that the celebrated Cunard service is all you have heard about it. The personnel on these so intensely British ships is trained from their youth up, and the crew, and indeed the British people, is almost as proud of this ancient tradition as they are of other British institutions. In vivid, embarrassing contrast to this proud tradition, according to which young men are trained to give service that is not just service but which is rather an art, how and where (and why!) do they get the personnel on the United States? From the union, of course. And is this personnel suited to represent the American nation at sea? I can't answer officially for all the crew (unofficially I could write several sulphurous tomes!), but I do know that the head chef, a gentleman with the good old American name of Otto Bismarck, told me, ruefully, that of the scores of cooks (perhaps "cooks" would be more accurate) under him, there were exactly three who had been trained as ships cooks! And the others? The union simply sent them around, so I was informed, regardless of their qualifications (or indeed, lack of qualifications). Yet the fulsome handout the United States has the nerve to state, unashamedly, the following: "With great artistry, master chefs, I repeat, 'master chefs, prepare a wide variety of enticing dishes from the finest foodstuffs available!" This last outburst deserves a word of comment: although the boat of course anchors in Le Havre, the "Camembert" you get is of

course not the glorious creamy and mellow product of France but those unappetizing little silver-foil wrapped chunks of processed American Camembert-type cheese which is as closely related to the real thing as the United States is to one's concept of a delightful, civilized, sophisticated ocean liner.

In conclusion; an American invented the airplane; we developed it, and it would certainly look like American companies would offer the finest service. Yet my trans-Atlantic flight with S-A-S, and tourist at that, was so much better than all the other major American airlines—first class—I have flown with that there was literally no comparison whatsoever. An American invented the steamship and we developed it. When I think about the service offered by the French Line and the Cunard Line, I am mighty proud of our Mr. Robert Fulton. But when I think about the "service" offered by the United States Lines, as exemplified by the United States (unquestionably the most air-conditioned liner the world has ever known), I can only wish that the guy had never been born!

To Relieve Misery of COLDS take 666

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The U. S. Public Health Service says there is no scientific basis for the belief that plants are especially injurious to the human body during the night. Non-poisonous plants are beneficial rather than harmful in sleeping rooms, according to the director of scientific work in the U. S. department of agriculture. — "Popular Questions Answered," by George W. Simpson.

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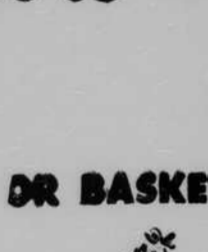
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