

In Italy: A \$64 Question

Will the world have war or peace within the next year? That's the question that's been bothering most of us ever since the Bear and the Eagle tangled diplomatic claws. It may well be answered today in Italy — in the sprawling political center of Rome, in the fishing villages on the Ligurian sea, in the small, tree-shaded country towns along the Po river, in the northern industrial cities of Turin, Milan and Florence.

Today an election is being held to fill the seats of the Italian Constituent assembly. Ordinarily such an election probably would rate six inches of gray type on page two of the New York Times. But this year it's been sharing front-page space with the coming presidential election in this country.

The issue is this: the Communist party of Italy, and the Socialist party, both being led now by Moscow-trained Palmiro Togliatti, could possibly win a plurality in the election. Lawfully that would result in the formation of a Communist-Socialist cabinet for Italy.

However, even if the Communist-Socialist party — "The Popular Democratic Front" — should win the election, Italian president de Nicola might ignore parliamentary rules and ask a center or rightist minority party to form a cabinet.

Italian Communists, who have been working hard to win today's election, would, no doubt, resent having their efforts go for naught. A civil war could easily result.

Many authorities doubt that the Communists will start a civil war. It is possible that Moscow will forbid Communist leaders to take action until Russia is able to give enough assistance to assure success. (This assistance would come into Communist-dominated northern Italy by underground railway from Yugoslavia.)

But we remember Togliatti's statement: "The working masses are on democratic ground when they resort to manifestations of violence to avert even the embryonic danger of fascism."

We remember, too, what Luigi Longo, number two Italian Communist and head of a couple of hundred thousand armed Communist partisans, said only a few weeks ago in Bologna:

"Even if we win the election, I doubt that the government will cede power to the Communists. What then? We will chase them out."

Italy is ready for civil war. People are ragged and hungry in Milan and Turin; in Rome's working class sections — the cobble-streets of Trastevere and Tiburtina — children froze to death last winter and many starved. These are the conditions that give rise to civil war.

If the civil war does come, the first skirmishes will probably be between police and Communists; then such fascist groups might rally perhaps 400,000 armed men to join the battle against Communists. It is even possible that the United States might land Marines and infantrymen to keep order.

Of course such action by the United States would be protested by Russia, which would like to see Italy as its western outpost. Russia might then move troops through Yugoslavia.

The cold war would be a hot war. It will pay to watch the returns from the Italian election today. —B.S.

In Recognition of Service

Most people have a natural distrust of secret organizations. They doubt the motives of any group which will not declare its objectives and reveal its operations.

There are, however, two secret organizations on this campus, which have acquired high reputations for anonymous service to the University. One of these is the Grail. The other is the Golden Fleece.

The only way to judge an organization which keeps its actions secret is through the men who claim membership in it. Since its inception in 1903 the Fleece has tapped such men as Frank P. Graham, Robert B. House, and Phillips Russell of this University; former governors O. Max Gardner and J. C. B. Ehringhaus, and present candidate for governor R. Wayne Albright; Thomas Wolfe, author, and Hatcher Hughes, Pulitzer prize winner in drama; Thor Johnson, conductor of the Cincinnati symphony; J. Wallace Winborne, supreme court justice, and Walter P. Stacy, chief justice of the state supreme court.

Tomorrow night in Memorial auditorium the Fleece will hold its 45th annual taping. As yet no one but members of the Fleece knows how many will be tapped or who they will be. But judging from the records of former Fleece members it seems a good bet that those who are tapped tomorrow night will richly deserve membership in the highest honorary fraternity at the University.

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Things to Know About Italian Election Today

By Drew Pearson
 Washington.—Things to know about 1948's most important election so far:

When the Italian people begin voting today it will be the first real election since before Mussolini. It will also be the first time in history that Italian women have voted. . . . About 24,000,000 people are expected to vote, or 93 per cent of those eligible. Percentage-wise this is about twice as many as turn out for an American election. . . . The Italian Communist party numbers 2,200,000, making it the largest Communist party in the world outside Russia. They control 6,000,000 members of the Italian General Confederation of Labor, one of the largest organized labor groups in Europe. . . . Communists also control 400,000 ex-partisans who fought underground against Mussolini. . . . About 250,000 of these partisans are well-armed and trained for more guerrilla warfare.



In 1946, in a limited election, the Communist and left-wing Socialists were split, each polling about 4,000,000 votes. Today the Communist and left-wing Socialists are united. . . . Chief parties opposing the Communist coalition are the Christian Democrats and the rightist Catholic party. . . . In 1946 these together polled 8,000,000 votes—slightly less than the Communist and left-wing Socialists combined. . . . Thus other independent parties hold the balance of power in Italy.

There are a total of 99 political parties in Italy with 6,742 candidates running for office. The offices to be filled are 574 members of the Assembly (similar to U.S. House of Representatives) and 237 members of the Senate. These 237 Italian Senators will join 114 other honorary Senators already chosen. Of these 114 Senators already sitting, 45 are Communists or pro-Communists. The remaining 69 are anti-Communist. . . . Rome, the largest voting district, has 22 parties. Each party is identified on the ballot by a symbol. This is to give illiterate voters a chance to recognize different parties.

Polls open at 6 A.M. Sunday, closing at 10 P.M. the same day. Next day, Monday, the polls open again at 7 A.M., closing at 2 P.M. —in other words, the Italians will have two days of balloting. . . . Counting the ballots begins immediately after 2 P.M. Monday. . . . Election results are not expected to be indicative until late Monday night and definite returns are not expected until Wednesday, April 21. . . . Voters are divided into two groups—those over 25 years of age and those under 25. . . . Voters over 25 receive two ballots, one to elect members of the Assembly and one to elect members of the Senate. . . . Voters under 25 receive only one electoral ballot to elect members of the Assembly.

Three weeks after the election the new Parliament convenes. Its first job is to elect a President, which must be a two-thirds vote of both Assembly and Senate. If the Communist elect more than one-third of the new Parliament the election of a President may be debated for weeks. . . . After the President's election, his first job is to select a Premier to form his Government. This is done only after talks with Parliament leaders. . . . At present Premier de Gasperi has no Communists sitting in his Cabinet, although the Communists form the largest single party in Italy. . . . Communists are sure to demand representation in the new Cabinet, which may touch off riots and revolution. Next Italian crisis is expected around May 8 over formation of the new Cabinet.

Republican National Chairman Carroll Reece swears a Washington taxi driver with whom he rode didn't know he was talking to a Republican. "What do you think of President Truman?" "Truman?" replied the driver. "Why, he's the greatest we ever had. Now, you take Roosevelt. All Roosevelt did was divide the country into groups fighting each other. But Truman has the whole country united — against himself."

Jonathan Daniels, editor of the Raleigh News and Observer, "Liberalism in the Democratic Party" in which he emphasized the programs and principles of the Democratic Party in the nation since 1828, including the later programs of Federal aid to veterans, FHA, TVA, development of the atom bomb, justice for management and labor alike in so far as was equitable, and the principles underlying the Civil Rights Program.

D. Hidden Ramsey, general manager of the Asheville Citizen-Times, "The Democratic Party in North Carolina," who offered as a matter of record, the progress of North Carolina under the Democratic party. Examples are the education system, the increase in financial reserve and stability, abolition of the poll tax, and the placement of the State among the leaders of the South and the nation by a successive line of unblemished governors.

Robert Lee Humber, proponent of the Federation of the World, "The Democratic Party in International Affairs," in which he cited the attitude of



Short Break

A President in Our Midst

By Tom Kerr

Seems a body can't even go about his insignificant business on campus without hearing hushed rumors of another party in five minutes. All of which ought to keep the Carboro constabulary busy, not to mention the resulting capitalistic smiles in Milwaukee. Along this line, Inside Tip Service, Inc. has it that one of the local hustlers is busy preparing where-to-buy-it-and-how-much on all party ingredients. This should be quite a service to those brilliant enough to get their weekend studying out of the way by 3 p.m. Friday. All our Carolina genius has to do (when this project is finished) is call up and get the complete poop on procuring the necessities for the happy holiday.

Rolling around on the lawn in front of Hill hall the other pm, we (editorial) were beating our head against the soggy turf in vain attempt to find subject matter for a DTH column, when (lo and behold) we espied a middle-aged couple attentively scanning the inscription on some sort of monument.

Flash—we're in. It then happens that we, too, roll up to what later turns out to be an obelisk and cast a blood-shot eye on the inscription. After finding out that this hunk of stone is "in grateful

acknowledgement of their obligation to the first President of this University Joseph Caldwell D.D.," we read further only to discover that the above-mentioned "they" refers to the president of the United States, governor of North Carolina, and other alumni. This being so dedicated in the year of our lord 1847.

Now, as any sucker who has read thus far can plainly see, we were of course thrown into a state of complete confusion by the inclusion of the president of the United States among the alumni.

So we hobbled off to the Library where two acquaintances of the specie "library scientist" promptly came to our rescue with a barrage of dusty tomes.

All of this expended energy led us to a world-shaking set of facts, (i. e.) One James K. Polk attended this university from the fall of 1815 until his glorious graduation in 1818. He later found himself president of the land, and at this time contracted a Philadelphia firm to chisel an obelisk in memory of Dr. Caldwell.

Now, if you don't believe all this, you just roll along among the trees between Hill hall and the Alumni building and see for yourself. It's true. . . . yep, all true. . . . and it filled up a column, too.

More Write Away

No Skin Off Their Teeth

Editor:

Why is it that a student can't go into the Armory store during a ball game? The athletic dept. already has the money so why should they care if a student, ID card and all gets in. It is certainly no skin off their teeth and it is as inconvenient as the very mischief to go back to the room just to get a ticket that you are not going to use.

My sentiments are to tell the person or persons responsible to go jump in the lake (that is provided that they are well weighted with ticket stubs).

Stephen B. Bugher, Jr.

Record

Editor:

The Young Democrats club of the University concluded last week a series of addresses presenting to the student body some of North Carolina's leading citizens. As a matter of record, and with a brief statement of the texts of their speeches, they are listed here in order of their appearance.

Jonathan Daniels, editor of the Raleigh News and Observer, "Liberalism in the Democratic Party" in which he emphasized the programs and principles of the Democratic Party in the nation since 1828, including the later programs of Federal aid to veterans, FHA, TVA, development of the atom bomb, justice for management and labor alike in so far as was equitable, and the principles underlying the Civil Rights Program.

D. Hidden Ramsey, general manager of the Asheville Citizen-Times, "The Democratic Party in North Carolina," who offered as a matter of record, the progress of North Carolina under the Democratic party. Examples are the education system, the increase in financial reserve and stability, abolition of the poll tax, and the placement of the State among the leaders of the South and the nation by a successive line of unblemished governors.

Robert Lee Humber, proponent of the Federation of the World, "The Democratic Party in International Affairs," in which he cited the attitude of

the peoples of the world toward some of the leading Democrats—Woodrow Wilson, and Franklin Roosevelt, the work of certain other Democrats in establishing the "Good Neighbor" policy, and the present foreign policy as evidenced by President Truman's speech on Navy day, 1945, as evidence of the principles and work of the Democratic party.

To those of you who have attended these lectures, we of the Young Democrats club express our appreciation for your participation, and sincerely hope that they have been of some benefit to you. To those of you who did not attend, we sincerely regret that you could not have taken advantage of this opportunity to acquire a first hand knowledge of the Democratic party and its work, and the more definite questions arising in the "question and answer" period concerning the current issues on domestic and foreign policy.

To those members of the faculty, administration, students, and townspeople, who have helped to make possible these presentations, we give our sincere thanks, for it is only through you, that any organization can be a success.

To those who are interested in becoming a part of an organization designed to convey to the student body the principles and personalities of the Democratic Party—The Party of the People—who wish to align themselves with a party founded on liberalism and equality, and whose primary interest is the interest in the people, the Young Democrats club extends a cordial invitation to become a member.

Bill Cooke, YDC

Yock!

Editor:

I see where the Tarnation staff has finally been moved to a more appropriate office in the basement of the Graham Memorial. . . . next to the Men's Room.

Donald MacDonald

Write Away

The Meaning Of Discrimination

Letters submitted to the Write Away column must be double-spaced, typewritten, and shall not exceed 300 words. All contributions must contain signature, telephone number, and address of the author. (Names will be withheld upon request.) Letters which contain obscene or libelous statements or letters which do not comply with these stipulations will not be published.

Editor:

What does the word discrimination mean as it is used today? To me it means judgment against a man for something irrelevant. Thus refusal to admit a man to the University of North Carolina because his skin is more highly pigmented than ours or refusal to allow a woman to teach because she is not a man are cases of discrimination. Such decisions are irrelevant and would remind us of something from "Alice in Wonderland, if we were not injured to them.

The University of North Carolina's discrimination against women as professors is what angers me most as I write this letter, simply because I am a woman and not a Negro. That a co-educational system which admits women undergraduates on an equal footing with men should hold up its hand afterward and say, "Thou Shalt not Teach" seems to me unjust.

When I first arrived in Chapel Hill last fall, I imagined the University of North Carolina as a liberal institution. Didn't it call itself one? But that myth has been dissipated for me, until spring finds me a disillusioned woman. The University of North Carolina like the crab is moving backward in a time when it needs to move forward and this because of the power of certain men in key administrative and professional positions, the example of the Department of Romance Languages being, perhaps, the most notorious.

These men are, I think, most dangerous when they call themselves liberals or "just plain middle of the road folks". In either case their self-appointed function is the same: to oppose change and to set themselves up as superior to those they look upon as either reactionary or radical. Actually their superiority complex makes them the most dangerous of reactionaries.

Makes them the enemy of the Negro and the woman in the South today who find themselves doomed respectively to an unskilled or white collar position in life. Place a broom or a harmonica in a Negro's hand, and he is acceptable. We don't mind being looked after or entertained by a man even if he isn't a "pinko-gray" like ourselves (E. M. Forster's appellation for the so-called white race). Place a short-hand pad or a nursing bottle in a woman's hand, and she is likewise acceptable. We don't mind having our routine and mental tasks accomplished by someone of "inferior sex" either.

But let the women who dares to rear her head above the sea of domesticity and challenge the Department of Romance Languages tremble! She may be summa cum laude and holder of a European fellowship, it's not enough. She will spend all winter on campus and never be asked for a personal interview. She will offer these in support of her application, they will never be asked for. And in the end she will be turned down for the one unforgivable sin: she is a woman. Is this "Carolina liberalism"?

Elaine H. Johnson

Reply, Challenge

Editor:

The purpose of this letter is twofold: to reply to a criticism that has been made, and to accept a challenge that has been issued.

First, the criticisms; the opponents of UMT are insisting that the proponents of UMT have refused to participate in a debate which would expose both of the viewpoints on the issues presented by compulsory military training. While I was in Chicago two weeks ago, Miss Marsha Aiken, acting under the erroneous impression that I was opposed to UMT, forwarded a telegram to me which consisted of one hundred forty-seven words of request that I should

speak in opposition to UMT at the now infamously remembered Gerrard Hall meeting. On returning to Chapel Hill I informed Marsha that I was in favor of UMT. I appreciated the invitation and would like to speak in favor of UMT at that meeting. My offer, however, was not accepted due, as Marsha explained, to the fact that the meeting was to be conducted not for the purpose of hearing both sides of the issue, but for the presentation of anti-UMT sentiment only. In answer to the criticism that the proponents of UMT have been reluctant to participate in public debate on the question, and without intending to cast any adverse reflection whatsoever on Miss Aiken's initial invitation, I think it only fair to point out that, if any reluctance to participate in open debate has been shown at all, the opponents, not the proponents, of UMT were the first to show it.

Second, the challenge: in Friday's TAR HEEL a letter, written by Henry Adams and captioned

by the words "Come Out And Fight," issued a polite command to those who favor UMT to submit themselves and the merits of their arguments to public appraisal in the form of a debate. I hereby accept that challenge. I invite any other proponent of UMT who wishes to do so to join me in accepting this challenge, but should such a challenge not be forthcoming, I assure the opponents of UMT that I stand ready, willing, and (if sincerely hoped) competent to debate singlehandedly, any number of them at any time and in any form they choose to name. I am confident that the Editor of the TAR HEEL will be perfectly willing to act as an intermediary for the purpose of bringing both sides into personal contact and making the necessary arrangements.

But, in view of my answer to the current criticism, I believe that if such a debate is arranged it will be the opponents, not the proponents, of UMT who are accepting the initial challenge.

Bill Coe

Poem To Congress

Dazzled by brass, flanked fore and aft,
 The Truman boys call for a draft.
 Blundering: "A fire may start! Don't shout!
 Let's pour on fuel to put it out!"
 I'd like to hint that what is best is
 To change the fuel for asbestos.

The Army launch their long-dear plan
 To get control of every man.
 Truman with power over all our fate,—
 The little losing candidate!
 Not quite with selfless purity
 They name a draft "security",
 Despite our large reserves and strength
 They still incite this warlike length:
 It's really cause for some dejection
 That this plan comes before election.

"Preventive war", oh Forrestal?
 It may prevent all life,—that's all.
 What isn't right and isn't nice is
 How soldier-strategists stir crisis.
 Eleven billion dollars,—shucks!
 They ask four billion further bucks.
 If this were spent in aiding Europe
 Democracy'd be in the stirrup.

A leader wise, not dilatory,
 Could give a plan not military,
 A leader strong and lyrical
 Could turn the tide with miracle.
 Without being weak and not destructive,—
 But with a program that's constructive:
 Saying: "We'll feed", saying: "We'll build",
 Defining freedom for the world,
 Saying: "America's for peace,—"
 Just get that in your noodles, please;
 Neither imperialist nor bad,
 Most of us aren't money-mad;
 And though we too have made mistakes
 We'll work things out for all our sakes."

Truman's program trouble breeds,—
 Why should you follow where he leads?
 Power to him now would just be draft—
 Cry out for peace! Oppose the draft!

Name Withheld

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Flowers
- Wild
- Makes happy
- Hayco
- Printed matter
- Sodium (sym.)
- Hall
- To dodge
- To hit
- To shout
- Monkey
- Place
- Stone throwers
- Man
- Arrow poison
- City in Latvia

DOWN

- To pass from one to another
- Fruit (pl.)
- Followers
- Summer (Fr.)
- Dry
- Passage money
- Night before
- Six and
- Related on father's side
- Jumps
- Beastly
- Uncouth
- Last bugle call
- Pert, to irritate
- Kind of cloth
- Folktales
- Fresh
- Covers
- Wagers again
- Congressional body
- East Indian
- Island
- Mistakes
- Man's name
- Covers
- Shod
- Lyric poems
- Departs (fr.)
- Conjunction
- Harem room
- Ugou

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