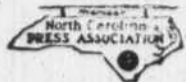


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No 'Witch Hunt'?

PRESIDENT TRUMAN appears to have gone a long way "out on a limb" in his proposal for a "loyalty" purge of federal employees. It is said that this is not to be a "witch hunt", but it certainly has all the makings of one.

First of all, everybody is to be blacklisted who is a member of "any totalitarian, fascist, communist, or subversive" group. What is a fascist group? Some persons call the National Association of Manufacturers fascist in its philosophy. And who is a communist? Frequently it is anyone who disagrees with us.

Furthermore, mere "sympathetic association with" a subversive group is sufficient grounds for blacklisting a man or woman. That's a very broad term; it easily might be made to cover a lot of territory.

And who is to determine which groups are and which are not subversive? A single man, the attorney general. Isn't that putting considerable authority in the hands of one man?

Finally, every present and prospective government employe is to be gone over with a fine-tooth comb by the F. B. I. That puts the F. B. I. into an entirely new role. In the past, its job was to hunt down criminals; now it is assigned the task of hunting down the "disloyal". And that word "disloyal" is a pretty indefinite term. Suppose a man is critical of the F. B. I. and of Mr. Edgar Hoover. Would it not be quite human for the F. B. I. to find something, somewhere, in that man's past which could be termed disloyal? If this doesn't make the F. B. I. an American G. P. U., it will be the eighth wonder of the world.

Toward Peace

Interesting and timely questions are raised in Mr. Sorrells' letter, published on this page. They are questions to which different people, all equally sincere, will find widely varying answers.

One answer might be this:

From a purely practical viewpoint, it makes sense for us to feed and clothe the war stricken, whether former enemy or ally, as a matter of self-preservation. If we do not, we are inviting another war; for, as The Asheville Citizen so aptly says, "totalitarianism feeds on hunger, misery and governmental chaos".

It is true that, had Germany and Japan won the war, they would have shown us little mercy. But, fundamentally, the reason we fought the Germans and the Japanese was because we hated the things for which their governments stood. Are we not, then, to apply to ourselves standards somewhat higher than theirs? Are we not, in fact, since we call ourselves a Christian nation, to seek to apply the standards of Christianity?

That, perhaps, is the most practical thing we can do.

For there must be international peace if civilization and mankind are to survive, and no organization, no army and navy and air force, no atomic bomb is powerful enough alone to establish and maintain peace. The one hope, the one way to peace is along the road of Good Will.

A Better Place To Live

The Little Symphony of the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra probably has played to many audiences larger than that in Franklin last Friday evening, but it is doubtful if it ever has had a more appreciative one. Men and women, elderly persons and young folk, representing a wide variety of interests and tastes, gave the orchestra rapt attention and spontaneous applause.

And the 600 school children who filled the Macon Theatre for the free performance in the afternoon were exceptionally well behaved and were even more emphatic in their approval of the musicians' artistry.

The concerts, like the recent Rotary lectures, are the type of thing a community may or may not have; it is not the sort of thing usually considered an absolute essential. We'd still have a town here if we never had a lecture or a concert—but what a

difference! For you cannot stimulate the thinking of the people of a community, or their love of the beautiful, without making that community a better place to live.

Because that is true, the thanks of Macon County are due Miss Nora Moody and the members of her committee and the cooperating organizations and individuals whose efforts made the concerts possible.

LETTERS

RAISES QUESTIONS

Dear Editor:

May I ask a few questions through your paper?

No. 1. Why is it that we are indebted to Italy and other countries that fought us in the recent war?

No. 2. It is my understanding that we were called upon to buy bonds, which we did, most every one to the limit, in order to help finance our country and others who were in line with us, then why do we owe our enemies?

No. 3. If Germany and Japan had won the war, do you think for a moment they would have come to our aid with money and supplies?

No. 4. Where would Hitler and his comrades be now, if they had won the war, and what would we be doing?

No. 5. Don't you think Brother Hoover has changed quite a bit? When he was in power, he could not or did not appropriate anything for his own starving people and now he asked for a half a billion dollars for our enemies. Alas, and did 'my Savior bleed- And how the people cried, when they heard Hoover say 447 million is what the Germans need, when he landed back on this side.

Charity should begin at home.

J. C. SORRELLS.

Franklin, Route 3,
March 18, 1947.

Others' Opinions

THE CHECK-OFF

The check-off is the system whereby the union membership dues of an employee are deducted from his pay by his employer and turned over to the union treasurer. This is done without his authorization. He may or may not want it done, but his wishes do not enter into the matter. The deduction is made pursuant to a contract between the employer and the union. This represents one of the great victories of organized labor because it solves the labor chieftains' most important problem: the maintenance of paid-up membership.

The prohibition of contracts requiring the check-off is one of the features of the anti-closed shop law enacted a few days ago by the state legislature. Of course, like the rest of this measure which seeks to restrict the power of the unions to infringe upon the fundamental rights of the individual, it is being loudly denounced as "anti-labor" by the spokesmen of organized labor. The majority of the people of North Carolina are more apt to regard it as a move for fairness and decency in labor relations.

Industrialization has not proceeded as far in this part of the country as in others, and our population, predominantly rural and small-town, is not generally familiar with labor union practices. Probably, until they began to read about it recently in the news of the legislature, a large proportion of North Carolinians were unaware even of the existence of the check-off and were amazed to learn that an employer was free to deduct union dues from a man's pay whether the man wanted it done or not.—Chapel Hill Weekly.

THE BYRD EXPEDITION

The present Navy-sponsored expedition to Antarctica, under the command of Rear Admiral Byrd, who pioneered scientific research in that vast region, is a significant illustration of the enormous changes that are taking place in the world. It is a distinct possibility that, if another war comes, part of it will be fought in the Arctic and Antarctic. The expedition, therefore, is designed to test men and machines under simulated battle conditions extremely unfavorable weather and terrain.

Some important discoveries have been made. It has been found, for instance, that the combat efficiency of a man declines about two per cent for every degree of temperature below zero. At 50 below, therefore, his efficiency is reduced to nothing, as all his mental and physical processes must be devoted to the basic job of keeping alive.

It has also been found that weapons reacted differently in the Antarctic under extreme cold than they reacted under artificial test conditions at the same temperatures. Apparently there is a different chemical reaction when cold is prolonged, as against when it is only of brief duration.

The expedition is a distinct contribution to hemisphere defense—and the facts produced will help make possible the long-range planning which is the principal duty of our military establishments in time of peace.—Spindale Sun.

NO END IN SIGHT

The majority of the men sitting in the last congress decided that price controls were no longer a necessity and they bowed to the heavy propaganda of the so-called vested interests and returned most prices to that mystic realm known as Free Enterprise.

Businessmen at every level predicted that the unhampered operation of the competitive system would bring prices within the reach of those of us who work for wages.

Too many figures have been quoted from the present commodity markets refuting this to have them repeated here. A \$50 per week job in March of 1946 has in one short year become a \$30 per week job.

The old boys who preached the "belt-tightening" theory of economics are again in the saddle. "Sit tight", they say, "the free enterprise system will take care of everything". Let the corporations and commodity market gamblers have their way. Let the tail wag the dog. Roosevelt is dead. The boom is here. But if boom comes, can it be far behind?

—Hertford County Herald.

TOO MUCH LIFE TENURE

There is renewed discussion of the suggestion that the term of supreme court justices ought not to be for life but for a given term. North Carolina has the right rule—an eight-year term. Almost always Justices are reelected until retirement, but there is always the opportunity to elect another. The same rule ought to apply to the United States supreme court and all other positions.

The tendency to life tenure has about destroyed the old rotation in office which Jefferson deemed a safeguard in a democracy. Now most men who go into office seek to remain permanently in office, and rotation is derided. There is often need for new blood and new ideas in public office.

—News and Observer.

America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law.

—Katharine Lee Bates.

Angling may be said to be so like the mathematics that it can never be fully learnt.—Isaac Walton.

Smokey Says:



THINGS CRACK FIRE EASILY IN THE WOODS AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR. SO PLEASE WATCH YOUR MATCHES!

The two forest nurseries operated by the State of North Carolina have a combined total possible output of approximately 15 million seedlings.

LEGAL ADVERTISING

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of J. D. Cabe, deceased, late of Macon County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 17th day of February, 1948 or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 15th day of February, 1947.

JOHN CABE,
Administrator

M6-6tp-A10

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as executor of the estate of Dr. John H. Fouts, deceased, late of Macon county, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of March, 1948, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 11th day of March, 1947.

DOVER R. FOUTS,
Executor.

Burnsville, N. C.
M27-6tp-May 1

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IF NOT PLEASED, your 30c back. Ask any druggist for this STRONG fungicide, TE-OL. Made with 90 percent alcohol. It PENETRATES. Reaches and kills MORE germs faster. Today at Angel's Drug Store.

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Creomulsion relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm, and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. Tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Creomulsion with the understanding you must like the way it quickly allays the cough or you are to have your money back.

CREOMULSION for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

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Children listless, finicky, fretful due to faulty elimination? Tongue coated, stomach sour? Time for TRIENA, the easy-to-give laxative. TRIENA is made especially for youngsters under 12. Prompt acting, mild. Contains pure prune-juice. TRY TRIENA. Caution: use only as directed. 30c, large size, 50c.

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