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OCTOBER 29, 1953

## Can We Win This Way?

The building of an atomic plant to produce electrical power for peacetime uses is to be "America's answer to recent Soviet atomic weapons tests."

That announcement, by a member of the Atomic Energy Commission, at first glimpse suggests that the American government at last proposes to do something with atomic energy that has no relation to the cold war; that we are answering warlike moves with peaceful moves.

The full announcement, however, fails to bear out that conclusion. Even this is a part of the cold war. We want to convince the countries on which we depend for uranium, it seems, that we are so far ahead of Russia in the atomic arms race that we can afford to spend some time and money, and some uranium, on constructive uses of atomic energy—so those countries will size us up as the winner, so far, of the atomic arms race, and hence not be afraid to continue to furnish us with the critically necessary uranium. Second, the development of atomic energy for industrial uses may help us win the cold war by strengthening our industrial machine and our economy.

All of which is good strategy, no doubt. But does it ever occur to the government in Washington, one cannot but wonder, that perhaps nobody can win the cold war, just as nobody can win a hot war today? Everybody loses in the latter; and everybody is quite likely to lose in the former.

It is true, of course, that you may have to carry a gun if you know your enemy is carrying one. But you aren't going to make peace with him by loud boasts about how much bigger and deadlier your gun is.

And if you don't make peace with him, one of you is going to get shot.

## Ought To Be Prosecuted

The marriages of 49 couples in Edgecombe County are found to be illegal. All because the supposed justice of the peace who performed the ceremonies wasn't a J. P. at all.

Matters of this nature are not taken as seriously today as they once would have been. Nonetheless, the error undoubtedly has caused considerable embarrassment and annoyance. Until the Legislature can legalize these marriages, the children of these couples technically are illegitimate.

The trouble came about because the justice of the peace "thought" his four-year commission had been renewed, back in 1949.

A man who is good enough to hold public office ought to be good enough to KNOW about such things. The Edgecombe J. P. ought to be prosecuted.

## Times Do Change!

The trouble Agriculture Secretary Ezra Benson has been having with the farmers raises an interesting question.

Mr. Benson is a Mormon, and, true to his religion, he believes in a maximum of self-help, a minimum of government help. (Even during the depression, there were no federal doles for the Mormons; those who could not take care of themselves were taken care of by other Mormons.)

The farmers have been up in arms because of these views of Mr. Benson—so much so that he has had to vastly modify his approach to the farm problem, the latest modification coming after a six-hour conference at the White House.

The point is not which is right, Mr. Benson or the farmers. The point is that it is farmers, always considered the most individualistic and independent group in America, who demand government aid through subsidy of farm crops.

## 'Old Words Best Of All'

Perhaps the most interesting thing about the award of the Nobel literature prize to Winston Churchill is not that Sir Winston should have been given the award, but the kind of writing and speaking he has done that won it for him.

"Broadly speaking, the short words are best", he is quoted as having once said, "and the old words are best of all."

That seems to have been his recipe for success in both speaking and writing. What could have been more moving than his "blood, sweat, and tears" speech! Yet note that that now-famous phrase is made up of simple, one-syllable words, and all of them old words.

Nobody in modern times, perhaps, has better shown the power of words than Churchill. After the evacuation of Dunquerque, as The New York Times points out, "he substituted words for tanks, phrases for artillery, and the throb of impassioned English for the bayonets that still had to be forged."

With no tool but words—short words, old words—this great man created a thing of the spirit that, somehow, held back the Nazi hordes—that, somehow, won, when all the odds and all the logic said to win was impossible.

## Others' Opinions

### MEDAL FOR METTLE

(University of N. C.) Daily Tar Heel

Dr. Joseph B. Cavallaro, a Brooklyn educator, hied himself up to New York's Astor Hotel the other evening to receive a chest full of decorations—seven in all—for "Americanism."

It was nice for this distinguished educator but we don't like the current idea of giving Americans prizes for being "good Americans". The idea of Americanism has such wide divergence of definition that we believe it impossible to use a check list to find who is and who isn't. (Certainly we wouldn't want Senator McCarthy's idea to prevail.)

Being a "good American" is reward enough; certainly no tin badge is needed to attest to it.

### FAITH ENDURING

(San Diego, Calif., Evening Tribune)

One set of stories Americans brought back from Korean prison camps filled us with vast, humble pride. Those were the tales of religious services held in defiance of atheistic captors.

A group of prisoners would form a ring on a Sunday morning, trying to look as though they were having a "bull session". Then they'd murmur softly, so the guards couldn't make out:

"Holy, Holy, Holy,  
Lord God Almighty,  
Early in the morning  
Our song shall rise to Thee."

It's outside the experience of most of us to be able to picture the scene.

The prisoners were ailing, semi-starved, and knew that they were guilty of a crime in the eyes of their guards. Their clothes were ragged, their faces thin and bearded. They were as unlikely looking a lot of worshipers as members of a typical American congregation can imagine at first thought.

Watching them were armed Communists, better dressed, better fed, to all appearances better off in all ways.

Around was the snow or mud of the prison yard. Stained glass, organ music, safety and comfort were miles and must have seemed light years away.

Was this the setting for worship?

And the almost thunderous answer is that of all places, it was. The men found it so.

They had reached a limit where only essentials matter. They had no rich, obvious material blessings for which to give thanks, and they prayed for no small affairs and aid.

Rather, they told God they trusted in Him. They offered the almost perfect prayer, that speaks of faith enduring in time of sorest woe.

### DANGEROUS TO WHOM AND TO WHAT?

(Smithfield Herald)

The Young Democrats in convention at Raleigh squelched Selma Newspaperman Tom Davis' resolution condemning secret sessions of governmental bodies.

Jesse Helms, administrative assistant to Senator Lennon, called the resolution "very dangerous" and questioned the propriety of its consideration by the Young Democrats.

Very dangerous to what? Very dangerous to whom?

Certainly a condemnation of secrecy in government isn't dangerous to democracy, for the very life of democracy depends on keeping the people's business in the open so that voters may know what their elected representatives think and to and upon this knowledge may cast ballots intelligently.

Certainly a condemnation of secrecy in government isn't dangerous to the people generally, though it may be dangerous to the political security of office holders who insist on the right to conduct the people's business behind closed doors.

And why isn't it proper for Young Democrats to consider a resolution on so vital a matter as secrecy in government?

If the YDC is simply an organization to further the selfish political ambitions of its members, we could accept Mr. Helms' view that the Davis resolution was not a proper matter for consideration by the organization. For consideration of the

## OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat

### ALL IN A LIFETIME



NOT TOO LONG AGO, WE MARVELLED AT THE DARING OF THE MEN WHO RISKED LIFE AND LIMB, PERCHED ON THE SADDLE OF A "HIGH WHEELER." HERE WAS CONVINCING PROOF OF MAN'S MASTERY OF THE MACHINE.



TODAY, WE MARVEL AT THE DARING OF AMERICAN YOUTH FLYING JET AIRPLANES MILES ABOVE THE GROUND AT SPEEDS EXCEEDING THAT OF SOUND.

—SO HAVE MACHINES AND MAN'S MASTERY OF THEM PROGRESSED—ALL IN A LIFETIME.

resolution could put the politically ambitious members on the spot and serve, in some instances at least to retard, not advance, their political careers.

But if the YDC is an organization designed to promote the principles of the Democratic party, it could properly be concerned over the growing tendency of public business in the dark. For the great principles championed by the Democratic party from its beginning are based on a firm belief in the ability of the people to govern themselves when they are informed about the workings of government and are familiar with the opinions and the actions of their representatives in public places.

When Democrats, young and old, cease to be deeply interested in the struggle against secrecy in government, their party will cease to be worthy of the people's trust.

## Letters

### LIKE A LETTER FROM MACON

Dear Sir:

We are moving to Franklin next week and will subscribe as soon as we get settled. We wouldn't miss The Franklin Press anywhere. It's been like a letter from Macon for the almost 10 years we've been in California. Our Eastern neighbors enjoyed it too. We will drop by as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Lockeford, Calif.

MRS. JOHN MCKINDLEY

### Mrs. E. M. McNish's

## Impressions Of Her Trip To The UN

(Editor's Note: Mrs. McNish, as chairman of District 2 of the N. C. Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, was one of more than 100 women in the state to visit New York City and observe the United Nations in action.)

My first real deep impression was our stop at Mount Vernon—George Washington's home—and the hominess of that place—the feeling that people are still living there in a gracious and American way. The changing of the guard in the evening service at the Unknown Soldier's Tomb left a feeling of a religious service. The solemnity of the occasion and the beautiful hymns played on the carillon—this was where I got my first view of our national capitol with the rosy afterglow of the dying day in the background.

The ease with which the group of 112 women were cared for for the night and for our evening meal was amazing, no hurry, no scurry.

Tuesday morning was spent touring the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. I have a little more respect for the paper money we handle after seeing the length of time and amount of labor that goes into the replacement of our currency. Twenty days are required to make one dollar bill. Forty-four million dollars a year are printed for just replacement money.

Mr. Coke, assistant secretary of agriculture, spoke to our group, thanking us for the things the rural women are doing in the extension service; also, giving us a few pointers of the things that we could do

to improve our way of life—such as teaching our children in the home the meaning of citizenship. His parting remark was, "We will have peace in the world when we have peace within ourselves."

I was really surprised when I saw New York in daylight! It was so clean, so bright, and very similar to any of our cities of the South. I did not find the people cold and friendless as I had heard, but friendly and much like our own neighbors. I did not feel like a stranger in a big town at all.

The tour of the United Nations buildings and meetings gave a feeling of great responsibility and the fact that each of us has a part in the work that is going on there. This was brought close to us when Dr. Eichelberger compared the United Nations to our own communities and the problems that arise within them. The work of the UN is the same type, only on a world-wide basis. We had the privilege of sitting in on the committee where the French Moroccan question was being discussed.

The tour of the UN buildings was like traveling through a large art gallery. The interior decorating, which was done by different nations, is truly a work of art. It is most impressive to be told that the other nations made their contributions for these rooms by hand. Since I understand the work of weaving, this meant a great deal to me.

My sincere thanks to those here, who made this memorable trip possible for me.

## News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

By BOB SLOAN

We live in a great nation. One of the cornerstones of our way of life is our religion. There is a great amount of chest beating concerning how much we really believe in our religion. Actions speak more convincingly than words. Below here is a real opportunity to show the true Christian spirit at Christmas time. Our soldiers are doing a good job, but let's help them out and at the same time show the world there is a heart behind our Christian preachings:

Dear Friend:

In Korea in 1953, now that the fighting has ceased, at least for the moment, we in the X Corps (Group) see a civilian population suffering almost as severely as when the fighting was at its height.

In the X Corps (Group) sector which is commanded by Lt. General Reuben E. Jenkins, there are almost 75,000 civilians who live in an area fought over many times, scarred and devastated by the violence of war. A family of five or ten eke out a bare living from a barren two-acre hillside farm. Often there is no head of the family for many fathers died in war.

The X Corps (Group) has tried to meet its unwritten obligation to these people—the obligation of humanity—to help those less fortunate. We receive some help from the United Nations and Army funds, but not enough to reach everybody.

Under the supervision of our Civil Affairs Section we have established hospitals and brought in Korean doctors and nurses to staff them. We have erected schools and dispensaries. One forty-bed hospital was built with contributions from the men of the X Corps (Group). We help wherever we can with seeds, tools and food. Parcels of clothing from our families and friends in the United States are distributed to the neediest of the Korean

## Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

### 50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Suppose we were to publish all the little, invidious kicks that people make because of things we publish in The Press from time to time. What would the kickers think of it? What would the people they kick about think about the kickers? We think the best thing such kickers could do would be to go behind the barn and kick themselves to death.

Mr. E. K. Cunningham has bought the stock of goods from Mrs. G. H. Bidwell at Corundum Hill, and is conducting the business at that place.

A box supper was given at the Baptist church last Saturday night and those who attended report a very pleasant time and good behavior. There were not boxes enough to go around. Two cakes were sold for votes for the prettiest girls and the winners were Misses Mattie Palmer and Maud Jacobs.

### 25 YEARS AGO

The Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea company opened a branch store at Franklin Wednesday of this week.

When Judge Walter Moore, of Sylva, held the last term of court at Franklin, in September, he gave instructions to the county commissioners to build a new jail at once. The judge, according to C. R. Cabe, one of the commissioners, called in the solicitor and told him to indict all three commissioners unless they had taken steps to build a new jail by the November term of court. With these instructions hanging over their heads the commissioners immediately issued short term notes to the extent of \$25,000 for the purpose of erecting a new jail for Macon County. The contract for this new building will be let on November first.

### 10 YEARS AGO

Mrs. J. Ward Long was elected president of the Macon County chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy at the meeting last Monday at the residence of the retiring president, Mrs. H. E. Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Watson Barratt, of New York City, have been spending 10 days at their summer home on Satulah Mountain, and have had as their guests, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Turner, also of New York City (Highlands Highlights).