

The Franklin Press

and

The Highlands Maconian

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DECEMBER 9, 1954

Strange Paradox

Where does Senator McCarthy's strength lie? The vote in the U. S. Senate last week, when that body censured the Wisconsin senator, casts interesting light on the question.

The crucial test came not on the censure motion itself, but in an earlier vote on a substitute motion made by Senator Dirksen, of Illinois, a McCarthy supporter. Senator Dirksen's motion would have had the effect of clearing McCarthy of the charges against him. That motion was defeated, 66 to 21. An analysis of the roll call vote on the Dirksen motion shows that:

1. Voting against that motion were such conservatives as Ferguson (R.-Mich.) and George (D.-Ga.) and such liberals as Morse (Ind.-Ore.) and Douglas (D.-Ill.). Thus the censure motion brought together conservatives and liberals of both parties.
2. The 66 senators who voted against McCarthy on the Dirksen motion come from 41 states. That is, opposition to McCarthy's ideas and methods, as expressed by the senate vote, is widespread.
3. The only states from which there were no anti-McCarthy votes are Maryland, Idaho, North Dakota, Nebraska, Nevada, and Wisconsin (and in the case of Wisconsin, neither senator voted). With the exception of Maryland, all these states lie in one region — the Midwest.

4. While there were pro-McCarthy votes from 16 states, 15 of the total of 21 senators who voted for McCarthy come from only 11 states — Idaho (2 votes for McCarthy), North Dakota, Nebraska (2 votes), Nevada (2), Wyoming, Arizona, South Dakota, Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa. All of those 11 states that furnished nearly three-fourths of the pro-McCarthy votes lie in the Midwest.

5. Of the 22 senators from those 11 states, 15, or nearly three fourths, cast pro-McCarthy votes. (And the figure really should be 16, because Senator Capehart, of Indiana, was "paired" in favor of McCarthy — that is, he was absent and did not vote, but was recorded as favoring McCarthy.)

If the senators' votes represent the sentiments of their constituents — and senators stay in office by doing just that — then it seems pretty clear that Senator McCarthy's strength is largely sectional, and that the section that gives him his strength is the Midwest.

That presents a strange paradox. Because it is that same section in which isolationism has flourished for half a century. And isolationism and McCarthyism are in sharp conflict.

Isolationism grows out of the conviction that America is the best of all lands; that it has the best people, the best ideas, the best government, the best economic system. Furthermore, your isolationist would be among the first to say that the thing that has made it the best is its freedom.

McCarthyism — and the senator is only the symbol of a philosophy — on the other hand, is a denial of all freedom. The McCarthyites are not the only Americans who recognize that there always have been spies and traitors and that today is no exception. The difference is that McCarthyism grows out of the conviction that the only way to have security is to abolish freedom.

S-D Day

Most of us have had the experience of setting out, some one day or week or month, to see just how much we can do along a certain line. Usually, we surprise even ourselves. Then, having proved to ourselves how well we can do, we have before us a reachable goal to shoot at — and possibly pass — in the future.

That is the thought behind S-D Day, next Wednesday (December 15). S-D Day has been suggested by the President's Action Committee for Traffic Safety, and it will be observed next Wednesday all over the United States.

Of course every day should be Safe-Driving Day.

But the idea is if we will set out, just one day, to see how much we can do about the needless killing and maiming on streets and highways, we'll do so well we'll be challenged to keep on doing well on succeeding days.

Goodness knows it's time we did something about traffic accidents; because in last year's traffic accidents, we Americans killed one person every 14 seconds. And for every fatality, one man, woman or child was totally and permanently disabled.

It's a national problem, of course. But whose job is it — in the nation? The answer seems to be that the nation is made up of states, the states of counties, the counties of neighborhoods, and the neighborhoods of individuals. Thus, boiled down, the responsibility is that of individual men and women — of you and me.

And the solution really is simple. It doesn't cost anything, and it isn't hard or complicated. All you and I need to do is:

1. Observe the letter and the spirit of all traffic regulations.
2. Be courteous to every driver and pedestrian — just practice the Golden Rule.
3. Give our full attention to driving and walking — be as careful and considerate as we'd want the other fellow to be.

Let's try it next Wednesday. Let's hope it will be a successful demonstration all over the nation. But let's **prove** we can eliminate traffic accidents here in Macon County. Next Wednesday let's not have so much as a scraped fender!

A Good Job

North Carolinians have good reason to be proud of their Senator Sam J. Ervin, Jr.

Senator Ervin, a member of the committee that recommended Senator McCarthy be censured, has handled himself well throughout the entire proceedings.

He had the courage to stand up to McCarthy — without losing his temper.

He had the intelligence to state the censure vote issue clearly and simply — without over-stating it.

And he had the good sense to laugh at McCarthy — without losing his dignity.

ASK ME ANOTHER!

How Many Can YOU Answer?

Here's a game to test your family's knowledge of the facts about automobile accidents and, at the same time, familiarize everyone with those facts.

The quiz is distributed by the State Department of Motor Vehicles and was adapted from a pamphlet issued by the Lumbermens Mutual Casualty Company.

Check your answer; then turn to back page, second section, to see how many you got right.

1. What is the minimum safe distance, in dry weather, at which to follow another car?

- a. 10 feet for each 10 miles per hour
- b. 1 car length for each 10 miles per hour
- c. 20 feet
- d. 3 car lengths for each 10 miles per hour

2. What was the condition of the streets or roads on which at least 80 per cent of last year's North Carolina traffic fatalities occurred?

- a. wet
- b. dry

3. Do more accidents happen in good weather or bad weather?

- a. good
- b. bad

4. What is the safest procedure to follow if you become fatigued while driving?

- a. Speed up to make your destination before falling asleep
- b. Pull over to the curb and rest awhile
- c. Stop and eat a heavy meal
- d. Take some pills

5. What is the fastest, safest way to stop a car?

- a. Slam the brake pedal hard
- b. Ease the brake pedal to a deliberate stop

c. Pull up the emergency brake and depress the foot brake pedal

d. Pump the brake pedal gently but firmly

6. When a tire blows out, what is the most advisable thing to do?

- a. Apply the brakes quickly
- b. Apply brakes gently, or not at all
- c. Pull off the highway
- d. Speed up to counteract effect of blowout

7. There are four specially engraved invitations to death on the highway. Which is the greatest cause of death?

- a. Reckless driving
- b. Not having the right-of-way
- c. Wrong side of the road
- d. Excessive speed

8. Where is the best place to put an old tire which you think might blow out if driven far?

- a. Either front wheel
- b. In the garage
- c. Spare wheel
- d. Either rear wheel

9. Drunken drivers, or drivers who have been drinking, are involved in one out of how many fatal accidents?

- a. 24
- b. 6
- c. 18
- d. 106

10. In addition to the specific wording on the signs, the shape of highway signs has significance. Indicate the shape of the signs which have the following meanings.

- a. Stop
- b. Caution
- c. Railroad crossings
- d. Reduce speed

Correct Answers on Back Page, Second Section.

'MEN OF DISTINCTION'

(Christian Science Monitor)

Yet another portrait which the distillers who sponsor the series of big whisky ads will never seek: The Oregon youth charged with setting seven fires, one of which caused \$100,000 damage. Detectives say that after signing a statement admitting his responsibility he explained: "I had been drinking all night long — and if I hadn't this wouldn't have happened."

OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat

RISKS OF THE ROAD—

IN THE EARLY DAYS OF OUR COUNTRY, THE CHIEF DANGERS OF THE ROAD WERE HOSTILE INDIANS AND HOLD-UP MEN.



TODAY, THE CHIEF DANGER IS THE PERSON WHO DRIVES CARELESSLY—SPEEDING, WEAVING, FOLLOWING OTHER CARS TOO CLOSELY, CUTTING IN, DROWSING AT THE WHEEL.



AS MOTORISTS, WE CAN HELP REDUCE HIGHWAY ACCIDENTS BY OBEYING THE TRAFFIC LAWS, LIGHTS AND SIGNS.

SAFE DRIVING DAY—DECEMBER 15

COMMUNISM AT THE UNIVERSITY?

(U. N. C. Daily Tarheel)

Batten down the hatches, men, we're heading full into a hard hot wind from the South. Ralph Long, a former campus Communist who is at present busily engaged in saving humanity from the Red scourge, showed up in Miami Tuesday before the touring House Un-American Activities Committee.

And what revelations did he make? He said there was a small Communist cell here in the late 40's, something everybody knew at the time. He named five part-time instructors as "faculty Reds." All five were known to the FBI then and still are; all have long-since left Chapel Hill. He exclaimed the University "made no investigation, did nothing about it." There was nothing illegal about being a Communist at the time, and by Long's own testimony the group operated openly, not as a secret conspiratorial organization.

Long and his Communist friends in Chapel Hill in the late 40's succeeded only in drawing a few chuckles from the community. Now that he is a professional testifier, however, we suggest he is doing more harm to the University than he could ever have done as a Communist. He has revealed nothing that the FBI and, in most cases, the public, did not already know.

Unfortunately for the good name of the University, he appears to be enjoying the role of anti-Communist crusader and between him and Nell Battle Lewis, we are likely to be breathing a good deal more of this hot air for some time to come.

STRICTLY

PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

It is my strictly personal opinion that Franklin has some streets and sidewalks that are mighty dirty. And Christmas is coming!

With the holidays will come a lot of our young people. Will their home town look unkempt and down-at-the-heel by comparison with what they've been seeing elsewhere? And will their opinion of their home town go down in proportion?

Suggestion: An old fashioned Saturday night scrubbing behind the ears for Franklin right now would pay handsome dividends in the future.

I have never seen Mr. Vernon Ward, of Ransomville. I do not know who he is. Until last week, I had never heard of him.

But my hat is off to him. Because Mr. Ward has said, and said well, something that once was taken for granted in this "land of the free", but which a lot of people seem to have forgotten of late.

In a letter, published in the Greensboro Daily News, Mr. Ward said, in part:

"I wish to protest the arrest of Junius I. Scales. I am not now and have never been a member of the Communist Party, but I respect the democratic right of Junius Scales to be a member of the Communist Party and his constitutional rights to speak, publish, and assemble freely and thus to persuade as many people as he can to adhere to his movement.

"Under the first amendment, Junius Scales has a perfect right to teach and advocate anything under the sun, including the overthrow of the United States Government by force and violence, for the Constitution free.

specifically states that the rights of free speech, free press, and free peaceful assembly may not be abridged. Thus, only when Junius Scales and other Communists commit acts of force and violence can they be legally restricted. Those who interfere with the political freedom of a Communist or anyone else are themselves overthrowing the Constitution and are themselves traitors to American democracy.

"Since every officer of the United States Government has sworn to uphold the Constitution, including the first amendment, he perjures his oath of office and becomes a traitor to the country if he arrests anyone at all, whether Communist or McCarthyite, for 'teaching and advocating' or (an act even further removed from violence) 'conspiring to teach and advocate' anything the human mind might conceive.

"It is impossible to conspire to teach and advocate in a country wherein teaching and advocacy are themselves constitutional rights. So the Smith Act, under which Junius Scales was arrested, is obviously unconstitutional, and the only way it can be made constitutional is by amending the U. S. Constitution."

In other words, Mr. Ward, in the realms of religious, political, and economic thought and speech, we either are free or we are not free.

And it might be added that we cannot be "half free and half slave". Either all of us—even including the Communists—must be free to think what we please and say what we think, or none of us can be free.

News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

By BOB SLOAN

Adlai Stevenson got to the root of the problem facing us in Asia when he said:

"The number one problem in Asia today is not communism but that millions of people want a better life and have discovered that poverty, hunger and pestilence are not the immutable destiny of man.

"If they can't make progress by the voluntary democratic methods of consent, they will turn to the involuntary methods of coercion, as China already has."

The titular head of the Democratic party made this statement in an address to a group of Democrats at a party meeting last Saturday night, but the nation as a whole would do well to ponder its substance.

We must recognize the fact that for years, since even before America was a nation, millions of people lived in Asia in serfdom — a life little better than that of animals. In recent years these people have learned that life can be different — that it can have a meaning. Each taste of a better existence, no matter how slight, has brought an increased appetite for more. Just as the American people were determined to gain freedom and later the countries of Europe revolted to change their forms of government, the people — and we mean the masses — are determined to find some way to exist in a better way and pull themselves from the mire of serfdom. They will do it by some means.

The real job of the United States is to show these people that the real way is the path of a democratic government and a free enterprise system. Russia will do her best to lead them along the quicksand path of Communism.

These people are going to move. America, more than any other nation, must be blamed if the merits of our system are not made to shine so clearly and brightly that any other way will appear as darkness.

We must reach these people and show them the way. They are a mass of millions, and which path they take probably will determine the kind of life our children's children live.

Now that the McCarthy hearings are over it seems to me that the two outstanding men in the arena were Republican Senator Arthur Watkins and North Carolina's own Sam Ervin. Senator Watkins displayed terrific courage and Senator Ervin, though new at the game, handled the Wisconsin pug in such fashion that he had no come-back. Few have been able to do that.

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

The lower room of Mr. J. B. Pendergrass' new store building is practically finished, and he moved his stock of goods into it last Wednesday.

Dr. W. H. Higgins made a business trip to Clay County last Wednesday and returned Sunday.

25 YEARS AGO

Messrs Raymond Dalrymple and Norman Blaine attended the Mercer-Wake Forest football game in Asheville on Thanksgiving and while there, visited Harold Dalrymple.

The Rev. and Mrs. L. B. Hayes, of Shelby, spent Thanksgiving with Mrs. Hayes' mother, Mrs. Sam L. Rogers.

Bill Moore, Dean Sisk, and Frank Murray are guests of Judge J. B. Willis at Crystal Springs, Fla. They have gone for a two weeks' fishing trip.

10 YEARS AGO

Mrs. Ella Siler Freeman of West Asheville, spent the past week visiting Miss Amy Harrison at her home on Harrison Avenue.

Pvt. Clyde J. Holland, who is stationed at Fort McClellan, Ala., is spending a 10-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harley Holland and family, at Cullasaja.

Mrs. T. M. Keener left Monday to spend several weeks in Washington, D. C. — Highlands item.