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DECEMBER 16, 1954

## A New Eisenhower

Unfolding events, quite as much as official statements, reveal the Eisenhower administration undergoing vast changes.

It is changing politically; more important, the whole direction of the administration's program appears to be shifting.

Politically, there has been an abrupt change since last month's Congressional elections. In his 1952 election campaign and during the two years he has been in office, Mr. Eisenhower appeared to feel he must play partisan politics, at all costs — and he often played it rather crudely. In 1952 he endorsed McCarthy and sat on the platform with Jenner, who had called General Marshall "a front man for traitors"; and in the recent campaign, he endorsed all Republican candidates, whatever their views or character. Repeatedly, he has compromised.

But last week the President spoke out.

"So far as I can determine", he said, "the great mass of the people of the United States want what I would call a group of progressive moderates handling their business. And that is exactly what I am working for."

Then, in obvious reference to the extreme right wing of the Republican party, he threw down this challenge: "If people want to split off because of some other secondary or lesser consideration, that will have to be their business."

In other words, it's going to be a middle-of-the-road program, and those Republicans who don't like it can do just what some of them have threatened to do — form a party of their own.

Much more vital to the average American than the President's change in political technique is the emerging new program of the administration.

Mr. Eisenhower came into office pledged to reduce taxes and balance the budget; to substitute for military containment efforts to liberate enslaved peoples; and the implication that he would have no truck with Communists, anywhere — or, at least, not until they proved they had mended their ways.

All that, and much more, seems to be out of the window.

Indications are that Mr. Eisenhower will sit down, in the near future, at a top level conference at which the head of the Soviet government will be present. Trained observers say the administration has abandoned plans to liberate the enslaved peoples, and is seeking, instead, to split Communist governments (without reference to the condition of their peoples) off from the Russian orbit — and it certainly is true the administration has given no evidence whatever that it would support revolts by enslaved peoples. And the national budget not only has not been balanced; a new phrase that has crept into administration thinking suggests it will not be balanced in the foreseeable future.

The new phrase is "competitive coexistence". It would seek a *modus vivendi* (way to live with) with the Communists. It would shift the emphasis from military threat — from "truculence", to use the administration's own word — to an effort to live in the same world with the Communists, competing with them economically. Military strength would always be quickly available — but would be kept in the background.

The new attitude was best revealed by Mr. Eisenhower at a recent press conference. At that conference, the President left no doubt in the minds of the newsmen present that he was deeply and earnestly committed to do everything possible to find a way to peace. He counseled patience in both the recent trial and sentencing of 13 Americans as "spies", by the Chinese Communists, and the shooting down of an American plane, by the Russian Communists. And he made a statement so honest it must have taken great courage:

"There is no question, they (the Communists) honestly, in certain instances, question our intentions. They do not believe always, or at least universally, that we are peaceable inclined." President Eisenhower apparently is determined to convince them — no matter how much patience it takes.

Finally, as a part of the continuing effort to build

strength, the administration is reported planning a Marshall Plan for Asia — on the often-expressed theory that ignorance, hunger, and exploitation are the breeding ground for Communism, and that we can best fight Communism by removing its causes.

Mr. Eisenhower should not be damned simply on the ground that he seems to be repudiating campaign promises. How many of us would exchange places with him? And how many of us, under the great pressures and responsibilities of the Presidency, could promise a course that was always consistent?

The new program should be accepted or rejected by the American people on its merits. And certainly it has merit. Furthermore, the President has displayed great courage in adopting it.

## Others' Opinions

### THE NEW TRIUMVIRATE (Smithfield Herald)

Kerr Scott officially became a U. S. Senator Monday. Senator Sam Ervin escorted him before Vice President Nixon for the oath-taking. Senator Ervin himself had only been a member of the Senate a few months, having been appointed in June to succeed the late Clyde Hoey. He, too, took an oath Monday for the first time as an elected Senator. He was elected to the Hoey vacancy without opposition November 2. Among the North Carolina notables present for the oath-taking ceremonies was Governor Luther H. Hodges, who not many days before had taken the oath as Chief Executive of North Carolina, succeeding the late Governor Umstead.

Senator Scott, Senator Ervin, Governor Hodges! New names ring out. In the space of a few months there has been a complete turnover in the personnel at the top level of North Carolina politics. No longer ago than last spring we were saying Senator Hoey, Senator Lennon and Governor Umstead.

Somehow there's something familiar already about the ring of Senator Scott, Senator Ervin and Governor Hodges. Each man ascended to his present office after performing distinguished public service — Scott as Governor, Ervin as Associate Justice of the State Supreme Court, Hodges as Lieutenant Governor. Their newer titles seem to fit well. Three competent men devoted to state and country. Not of the same political or economic school of thought. But kinsmen in their allegiance to no "interests" except what they conscientiously regard as the public "interests."

Ordinarily such a great turnover in top-level political per-

## Lookee . . . Mr. Buchanan



Remember, Mr. Buchanan, how you promised us the North Carolina end of the Franklin-Tallahassee highway would be finished before Georgia's was? Well, they're moving dirt, in Georgia. This big fill is just one of many places they're moving dirt.

And the Clayton, Ga., Tribune reports: "Officials will not say, but watch for the State Highway Department to let the contract for the next section of US Highway 23-441 from Mt. City to Clayton early in January. North Carolina's interest in 'racing' has pepped up interest, but Resident Engineer Fred A. May can't admit it."

We can't win a race, Mr. Buchanan, unless we start!

sonnel would foreshadow a period of weak leadership in the state. Fortunate we are in North Carolina that we can lose a Hoey, a Lennon and an Umstead almost simultaneously and be able to carry on strongly with a Scott, an Ervin and a Hodges.

## Poetry

Editor  
EDITH DEADERICK ERSKINE  
Weaverville, North Carolina

### GOD BLESS MY FRIENDS

Could anyone live without good friends  
And lead a life that is worth while?  
I dare say NO for much depends  
On friendship and a pleasing smile.

Your gift refills my heart with song  
As I read your poems rich and new.  
Many million thanks to you belong—  
God bless my friends, and especially you.

WALTER A. STEELE

Franklin.

## News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

By BOB SLOAN

Perhaps Franklin is no different from other communities, but as to a particular case in point maybe it would pay us to be different. We lose something every year which through the years would be worth much to the economic, cultural, and spiritual development of our community. The irony of it all is that we suffer this loss because we do not put into practice what we say we believe in. Most anyone will subscribe to the theory that our youth are our greatest asset. We have spent considerable money on school buildings. If a project is for the schools, it gets good support. But every year many of our young folks have to move away.

Maybe I am wrong, but I think that a lot of this moving away could be stopped.

Young folks don't get that extra pat on the back or that little bit of extra support that is so necessary to any beginning here in our community. Particularly is this true of new couples that come to Franklin. No matter what their age, they are young in that this is a new start.

In our social life, outside of making that first little perfunctory visit, we don't really go all out to see that new people are included. It would make a difference if each time we entertained we tried to include some people who had recently moved to town or some young couple that were "having it hard" and needed to get out. We, as individuals, and the community would all benefit.

In our economic life, if the various lending institutions (See Back Page, 2nd Section)

## Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

### 50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Dr. F. L. Siler has about completed his new residence and expects to move into it tomorrow.

Mr. T. R. Gray returned from a trip to Bryson City last Thursday.

20 cts. a dozen for eggs at Wright and Robinson—Adv.

### 25 YEARS AGO

Sherriff C. L. Ingram and Deputy Fred Cabe last Sunday night caught three men with 24 gallons of liquor on Cowee Mountain east of Franklin, after the car in which the men were riding had failed to round a curve, and had wrecked.

Henry Wilkie is at home with his mother. Henry had his leg broken while away in another part of the state. The plaster cast has now been removed.

### 10 YEARS AGO

Cpl. Quince Corpening has arrived overseas and is now stationed in Belgium, according to a message received by his sister, Mrs. Henry Christy, of Franklin.

Curtis Pearson, of the army, has arrived at his destination in the South Pacific according to a message received by his wife here.

Following a week of bad weather, with snow flurries, ice and near zero temperatures, Highlands was visited Monday by a six inch snow, suspending school and blocking bus travel. — Highlands item.

## ATOMIC RACE BRINGS TIME OF TOTAL PERIL-AND OF OPPORTUNITY

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The author of the article below, reprinted from the Greensboro Daily News, a graduate of the University of North Carolina and the Duke Divinity School, is on special assignment by the North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Church with the American Friends Service Committee in Greensboro.)

By DAVID ANDREWS

"... I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live."—Deuteronomy 30:19b.

Is there any way to end the ever increasing threat of total war, to stop the spread of militant Communism, and to begin relieving the urgent hungers of mankind — by methods that are both realistic and in harmony with moral principles?

This is an urgent question to which each of us ought to be giving his most earnest thought. First, we need to look at the critical situation we face. Then we can consider two proposals for a constructive way out.

As a result of increasing Soviet military power, this country will soon be facing a time of total peril — according to recent warnings by the Alsop brothers, the Washington news-columnists.

We are warned repeatedly of Russia's growing strength in terms of nuclear weapons, jet bombers, and development of long range guided missiles. Despite our stockpile of atomic weapons and our strategic air command, this country is fatally weak in continental defense — in early-warning systems, intercepter squadrons, and guided missiles.

The time will come soon, military analysts insist, when we and our planners will face this terrible sentence: "Assumed that Russia now has the power to destroy the United States."

### MUST FIND AN ANSWER

Obviously we must find an answer to this critical situation, or we as a nation are lost. Many people are urging the country to wake up and begin preparing in earnest to meet the threat of Soviet power, by outstripping them in both offensive and defensive weapons — regardless of cost in money or effort.

The people who advocate this course are trying to be both realistic and brave. But there

is a fatal flaw in their plan. It is bound to be a dead-end. It can lead nowhere except to World War III, a tragic and ghastly Armageddon in which much that we seek to save — in property, lives, and human values — will be blasted from the face of the earth.

The atomic arms race involves two determined giants, neither of which will ever be forced into submission by threats of military destruction. And the arms race — with all it involves in poisonous propaganda and political pressures — will finally produce a state of tense and anxious hate that will lead, by blunder or intent, to total war.

Now, if military weakness invites disaster and the arms race makes disaster certain, what can be done? Is there no way out of this dilemma?

Yes, there is a possible way out. It is not any easy way. It is not a magic formula, or a painless panacea. But it is a way out that is at once realistic, courageous, and moral. Of the many aspects to this way of sanity and survival, two are of crucial importance.

### NEED TO UNDERSTAND

1. If we are to survive, ethically and physically, we must understand why people around the world are rising in protest and revolt. And we must act constructively to help remove these underlying causes of world upheaval.

What are the causes? Not Communism primarily, although Communist forces are aggravating and capitalizing on the basic trouble involved. Mainly, the cause is this: Hungry, overworked, and looked-down-upon people around the world are rising in violent protest against the injustices of long-standing exploitation and discrimination — both domestic and foreign.

The people of the colonial and ex-colonial nations — who in many cases are the darker-skinned peoples — are determined to begin enjoying the fruits of their own labor, to benefit from the blessings of modern science and production, and to stand as equals in a world of potentially free men.

with atomic explosiveness — we must understand this source of their appeal for many of the hungry and dispossessed.

We must somehow understand the volcanic forces surging within the world's poorer peoples, and help them to satisfy their rightful needs as quickly and as constructively as possible.

Such an effort will require really large-scale programs of social and technical assistance, redeemed by humility on our part and blessed with the personal touch. Such assistance is quite different from the wasteful and degrading "hand-out." These must be joint efforts, through the United Nations, in which we seek to help these people help themselves toward the gains in health, education, and nutrition which they most desperately need.

### CAN'T HAVE BOTH

But—This kind of all-out effort cannot be achieved in the midst of an atomic arms race which inevitably consumes the attention, energies, and resources of the world.

2. If we are to survive, the great powers must realize that—despite all economic and ideological conflicts — a workable plan of universal disarmament must be agreed upon and put to work.

The world needs urgently to move now toward real, world-wide disarmament. In addition to its brutal and blasphemous cruelty, modern war has now become plainly and insanely suicidal. And the arms race is consuming the goodwill and resources essential to a world-wide war on want.

Actually, genuine world disarmament — step by step down to the level needed for internal policing only — has never really been tried. Nations, alone or by treaty, have at times reduced their armament but they have not gone all the way with it together, under the protection of enforceable world law.

Effective universal disarmament could now be achieved through a revised and strengthened United Nations. Provisions for step-wise world disarmament could be written into the U. N. Charter, giving the U. N. necessary powers of inspection and enforcement.

### PUNISH INDIVIDUALS

The United Nations would need specific power to arrest any individuals directly involved in violations of the charter provisions, and power to bring vio-

lators before U. N. courts for trial.

Power to deal with individual violators would give the U. N. genuine, though strictly limited, police powers. The U. N. could thereby avoid bloody and destructive military intervention, such as the Korean war, except as a last resort if there should be organized rebellion against the U. N. itself. And as the process of world disarmament continued, the likelihood of rebellion against the United Nations would steadily decrease, as the effectiveness and popular support of the U. N. increased.

The analysts are right in warning that we are fast approaching — about two years hence — a time of "total peril." Fortunately, we are also nearing a time of great opportunity.

That opportunity will come in 1955 when the question of calling a U. N. Charter Review Conference appears on the U. N. agenda. And the crucial climax of that opportunity will come if and when that charter review conference is held—probably in 1956.

It is extremely significant, almost providential, that the time of total atomic peril and the probable date of the first U. N. Charter Review Conference will converge upon the destiny of mankind at the very same time.

If we can find the insight and courage to act creatively as these two fateful events converge, we can light a new star of hope for mankind — instead of plunging the world into the dark desolation of atomic eclipse.

We must face the fact, however, that the blessing of world disarmament under the U. N. cannot be achieved unless all the nations agree to it, and unless some influential nation takes the lead in proposing and pushing persistently for it. I hope and pray that this country can play that historic and honored role.

### NO ONE KNOWS

What would Russia do — if this country and others really meant business? No one knows. They might reject the idea, or they might accept it and come in. Strong forces will be at work in both directions.

If during the next two years we continue a policy of threat and counter-threat while at the same time refusing adequately to help the backward nations to help themselves, Russia may see the tide of world opinion run— (See Back Page, 2nd Section)