

'I Wonder If He's Coming Out?'



EDITORIALS

Never Forget That These Editorials Are The Opinion Of One Man, And He May Be Wrong.

A Congressional Decision

Although many professional cynics predict that Congress will not exercise its power and its wisdom because of election-year politics we hopefully belong to that optimistic group that has not lost faith in our representatives in both Houses of Congress.

Certainly, every year Congress does make decisions—if we were to offer a criticism it would be that Congress is called upon to make too many decisions, many of which could be just as well made by either an exercise of judicial or executive authority.

Now, as for the past 20 years the most terrible decision Congress has to make is the choice between spending for defense or paying off some of the huge federal debt.

Just as Louis Johnson and President Truman had dragged the military budget into something like reason the communists precipitated the Korean Conflict, and once more we were off to the deficit-financing war.

When the stalemate of Korea arrived and Eisenhower began to inch toward a sensible budget "Sputtnik" kicked common sense out of orbit.

Today we live—as civilization always has

lived—in an uneasy world. But the wisest men believe general war is checkmated by the very awesome machinery of modern war. Border conflicts, revolutions and counter-revolutions are still very much with us, as each day's headlines remind.

So what is the decision, today that faces Congress?

Whether to attempt to maintain every possible kind of military hardware and kiss any reduction of the national debt goodbye, or to streamline the military program and serious turn toward fiscal sanity?

The Soviets have said it flatly, and repeatedly that they intend to "bury" us. Not in atomic dust but in economic warfare. They say, and many pessimists admit, that a nearly-free economy such as ours cannot compete with a state-controlled economy.

Some in Congress use this as the best argument for tighter controls on our own economy. The Soviets have learned this much from us: That incentives are an absolute must for increased productivity. Congress might profit greatly from application of this American principle to the American government.

Cuban Confiscation

Since Cuba was granted its freedom it has lived, revolted and revolted some more under patronage from the United States of America. Now a man who is dedicated to communistic socialism has taken over that island and is confiscating all American private property in sight.

We cannot argue that he does not have the right to do this, because in politics frequently might makes right. And after all he IS doing it, so to argue about his rights is a useless waste of time.

But this coin has another side, and we suggest that American policy makers should glance at it.

Let us immediately put an end to Cuba's sugar subsidy which costs American taxpayers \$200 million a year. Let's cut off all tourist traffic that is still foolish enough to want to go to Cuba. Let's lop off NOW every kind of foreign aid; military, cultural, agricultural or educational and see how long Cuba will last on its fragile economy.

"But, Oh," some boy in the striped pants department will say, "if we do that Russia will buy Cuba's sugar, Russia will give them money, Russia will do this."

So what, let 'em. Russia is nursing a \$400 million rathole in Egypt, plus countless political and engineering headaches that it inherited when America refused to build Nasser a monstrous dam.

The economies of communists can be bankrupted too. If the boys in the Kremlin back room think they have problems with Tito, Nasser and other characters around the Mediterranean you can quote us as saying, "They ain't seen nothing until they begin running a Latin American country."

With our own country it appears that the more we spend on foreign aid the fewer friends we have, so let some of these international aims askers chant their plea in Moscow. They will find quickly what strings are attached to Soviet charity, and they will learn at first hand how glorious the technical achievements of the Russians really are.

The Soviets have a subway with murals and the first satellite in orbit, but they have not yet cracked the sound barrier that surrounds most of the world's political problems: The thirst for consumer goods.

The Louisiana Vote

No realistic analysis of the election last week in Louisiana can escape the cold fact that the Protestants of the state refused to elect a Catholic governor.

New Orleans Mayor Delesseps Morrison, a Catholic, carried all 15 parishes in which the total population is predominately Catholic, but he only carried seven of the other parishes where Protestants are in the numerical majority.

This not only tends to indicate that Protestants generally rejected a Catholic candidate, but also clearly illustrates that Catholics will vote rather solidly for a Catholic; at least Louisiana Catholics did.

With the national convention of the Democratic Party just five and a fraction months away, these current figures on the religious issue will be staring convention delegates coldly in the eye, when they ponder the wisdom of nominating Catholic Senator Kennedy for the Presidency.

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Although there were other issues involved in the Louisiana primary the major issue cannot be classified as anything but religious.

One pertinent question seems to automatically attach itself to this national problem: If Catholics elect to vote almost solidly for Catholic candidates as past events in Boston, De'roit and now in Louisiana prove; then can the Protestant be classified a religious bigot if he elects to vote for a Protestant candidate?

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

BY JACK RIDER

Good, But Is It Justice?

The conviction of 20 underworld figures for "conspiring to obstruct justice" is good so far as society is concerned but we wonder, is it justice?

These men gathered in the home of one and because of their background were arrested, and now stand convicted on a seldom used federal law.

To say that these men "conspired to conceal the true meaning of their meeting" is not enough for a criminal conviction in our mind.

The government finally got Capone on an income tax charge, despite the belief that he was everything that was ugly and illegal in the eyes of the law. Some of these men may be just as "ugly" as Capone, but until the power and grandeur of the law can support a more specific charge and obtain a conviction from a jury they should be freed.

The law cannot stand, or at least it ought not to stand on the practice that any means to an end is proper. Exercise of this kind of logic jeopardizes the most basic liberty of us all.

Two Strikes Is Not Out

United States Attorney General Rogers has failed to "hit the ball" in two attempts to secure indictments in Mississippi for the murder of accused rapist Charlie Mack Parker. Those of us who might rejoice in federal failure to intervene in state affairs ought not to lose sight of the fact that Rogers has one more strike before he is "out".

His next strike is on a different ball diamond, The Congress; where cries are already being heard for new, stronger punitive legislation under the guise of civil rights.

The odds greatly favor Rogers because so far as The South is concerned the ball game is fixed when it hits the congressional diamond. The "Black Sox" scandal is a minor tempest in a cracked teapot compared to the strangle hold that the black minority today holds in American politics.

Certainly some mad, frustrated men in Mississippi murdered Parker, and they should be tried for their crimes, but each member of the United States Supreme Court should be indicted as an accessory before the fact for having created the climate which led to his murder.

I don't know who the committee was that selected Oscar Greene Jr. for his second Distinguished Service Award but they were exactly right for my money. In my years in Kinston, which number for the vast majority of my 42 total no young man has contributed more unselfishly of his time, his money and his talents for a better county than Oscar. For other young men who may shrink from competing with Oscar; they can relax. He will be 36 in February and no longer eligible for this distinct honor.

While the family of this friend is warmed by his recognition, another family for whom I feel more than an ordinary closeness this week was literally shattered by the death of their youngest son and brother. Words are cold, useless things—no matter how well intended or how sincerely sympathetic they may be in such a tragedy. I've known Plumer and Georgia Daniels all my life, and their son all of his life. Impossible as it is to understand their agony this week, as the father of three very dear ones of my own I shiver with the thought that most parents have in a time such as this: This could happen to one of my own.

Kinston shared the company this week for a day and a half of a really dynamic personality; Paul Harvey; hard-headed, hard-working and hard-American plus a quick wit, incisive intelligence and a platform manner and voice that command attention and demand respect: This is all the flattery any good man can stand, and a damned sight more than I've been accustomed to passing out in these columns.

For Harvey's appearance Kinston and Lenoir County should be most grateful to the Junior Chamber of Commerce. Monday at noon when Harvey eulogized Kinston and Lenoir County over 240 stations of the American Broadcasting Company through the facilities of Radio Station WFTC more people heard more good things about Kinston than ever have in the 199 history of our little hamlet. The JC's ran a small deficit in bringing such a nationally known speaker to our town, but the profits of their generous gesture will be reaped for a long, long time.

Governor Hodges has given Eastern Carolina in general and its richest citizens in particular a bucket full of hell for the slowness of industrialization. Maybe Luther's right. Too many of our luckier citizens have gotten rich in Eastern Carolina and then sent their money to Wall Street to finance companies in other parts of the nation. If I might, I'd like to point to at least one exception, and one in which some of Kinston's best heeled citizens have never made any direct profits.

North Carolina's first federally approved and federally inspected meat packing plant was built in Kinston with local money, and although it suffered through some mighty hard times it has flourished and today is making a major contribution to the economy of Lenoir and surrounding counties. And if this first major effort in the meat packing business had not established a solid base for the meat business in Kinston there is certainly a logical question whether Swift would not have its big plant at Wilson.

But Luther, who was raised by Marshall Field, ought to know as well as anybody and better than most that it takes an awful lot of money to crank up a Dacron plant, or a cement plant. I agree that these



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