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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1954

Is 'New Look' Safe?

Shift in emphasis from ground forces to more air power and atomic weapons—a move which for brevity's sake is being called the "new look" in the nation's military plans—is of primary concern to all Americans.

This fact is that the change does not involve almost total reliance on new weapons and new strategies to the nearly complete exclusion of the old, as some persons appear to believe.

However, although Wilson's statement is reassuring, it does not allay doubts entirely. Still open to question is whether the plans call for too much of a shift to preparations for aerial atomic retaliation.

Because what General Ridgway says commands respect, and because what he did say in this instance is necessary to a complete understanding of the issue, his statement is worth repeating in part:

"Because of the complexity of land warfare . . . the individual soldier . . . is emerging even more clearly as the ultimate key to victory."

Further: The coming of new weapons and greater stress of air power has "given new meaning and wider scope to the dimensions of land warfare, without changing war's basic nature and basic objectives."

And Ridgway pointed out, as many a military man has done before him, that the ultimate objective in war "is control of land and people living on land."

What Price Coffins?

A little noticed development in Washington involves a somber subject—the price of coffins.

The Federal Trade Commission, according to a dispatch to the N. Y. Herald Tribune from its Washington bureau, has accused 160 coffin manufacturers with collusion to fix prices and concentrate business on higher priced lines.

Program Is Proposed

Greensboro is sharing the experience of fast-growing communities trying to bring their municipal facilities into line with the demands created by expansion and increased population.

water and sewer proposal to the council as part of a capital improvement program, called for by Greensboro's development and expansion. Included in the program are proposals dealing with police and fire protection, lighting system modernization, and street paving.

If Greensboro is to keep its municipal services in line with its growth, there will have to be expenditures for capital improvements. Such expenditures will be a profitable investment in the city's future.

The communities which are moving ahead are those that appraise their municipal needs and take proper action to deal with them.

The President's Dilemma

Governor Umstead told the State Democratic Executive Committee he had "a feeling" that President Eisenhower knows that the "greatest mistake" he ever made was "when he decided to become a Republican."

The Governor was speaking as a partisan, of course, and Republicans and like supporters will undoubtedly take exception to the remarks.

Maybe the President's real mistake was made when he failed to realize that when he accepted the nomination he was being shouldered with the Republican old guard reactionaries.

Unless Eisenhower views more support and co-operation from his own party than he has yet had, he might go down in history as the "frustrated President."



Mr. Ruark Robert C. Ruark

LAKE TAUPU, New Zealand, the orbit 17-M. I'm a little late to come to the obit on Maj. Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer, but I'd like to write it, anyhow.

I never met a man I liked less. I went up to check on him this past summer, when he was the hot point of an implied congressional investigation.

In the end it cost me the price of my magazine wage and some extra of my own expenses, plus a couple weeks of working time, to discover that Cramer's only sin was priggishness, and that he was guilty only of being a stiff-backed general in a time when the generals are supposed to drink beer with the privates in order to be popular.

What caused the uproar was that Cramer had fired a colonel—a lot colonel—for drunkenness and riotous consort with some frauleins. I don't have the notes with me but, as I recall, there were some 15 specifications in the court-martial, most of which had to do with being without content.

Cramer didn't have a cagful of high-rankers awaiting trial. I looked at his convening record upside down and backwards and illegal, too.

Bread Of Life

by REV. A. PURNELL BAILEY

It was during my first year in college that I became unbearably homesick. I had never been that way before; in fact, I had never been away from home that long before.

Who could ever forget his understanding counsel? "You would not speak well for your home, young man, if you did not get homesick for it," he counseled me.

Home-sickness for an earthly home or a heavenly home is a very natural and normal desire. The more intense the desire, the more we reveal the worth of that we seek.

A Thought For Today

Yes, he loved the people; all his saints are in thy hand; and they sat down at thy feet; every one shall receive of thy words. —Deut. 33:3.

But there was never a word from Cramer. I never expected any gratitude, although I could have hung him by the heels. He was that kind of guy: A thorough prig, but the kind of prig who served his country well, according to his lights, and the kind of prig we could use more of. He was a good servant of his land, and was generally unappreciated.

The American Scene

By Thomas L. Stokes

WASHINGTON, March 17—The quick, quiet and easy way to blackjack the consumer, while he's watching Joe McCarthy or something else, was illustrated by the Senate this week when it sneaked through a bill which, it was estimated during debate, will cost users of natural gas many millions, eventually.

This is the sort of legislation that former President Truman used to cut down with his veto. Whether President Eisenhower will do the same remains to be seen. A valiant but futile fight was made against it by two Democrats—Sen. Burke (Ohio) and Douglas (Ill.)—while Sen. Morse, Oregon independent, tried in vain to get the bill sent back to committee for public hearings which never had, in fact, been held.

The effect of this measure, as pointed out here several days ago and explained to the Senate by Sen. Burke, will be to open the way for big, interstate gas distributors to get out from under jurisdiction of the Federal Power Commission.

"I say that an interstate pipe line company, in transmitting natural gas, could form a wholly owned subsidiary within a state, and that this measure, if enacted, would be an invitation to such a company to do so; and the wholly owned subsidiary within the state would no longer be subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Power Commission."

Sen. Burke's vigorous participation in the fight against the bill was significant, as well as interesting, because the whole story goes back several years to Cleveland and to the East Ohio Gas Co. which serves that area.

In 1931, just after passage of the Natural Gas Act, the then mayor of Cleveland, Harold H. Burton, subsequently senator and now a Supreme Court justice, petitioned the FCC for an investigation of the cost of transmitting natural gas from the Ohio River to Cleveland.

Sen. Burke told the Senate this week that the FCC investigations have been of great value to cities all over the country as they could get operating and cost figures which otherwise they had great difficulty in obtaining.

"That," he added, "is why, since the passage of the Natural Gas Act, the gas companies of the nation have been constantly trying to get out from under the jurisdiction of the Federal Power Commission."

After the Supreme Court decision, a bill was brought forward in the Senate to exempt from FCC jurisdiction purely intrastate companies such as East Ohio. However, when examined, it was found to contain loopholes that might exempt interstate pipe line companies. The bill was revised accordingly and limited to intrastate distribution and passed the Senate in the 82nd Congress but failed of action in the House.

Last year, toward the end of the first session of the 83rd Congress, the House passed the much broader bill, like the original Senate measure, which the Senate approved this week. Only a single day of public hearing was given the bill in the House. When it reached the Senate after House passage, it was reported out by the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee the same day, with no public hearings at all.

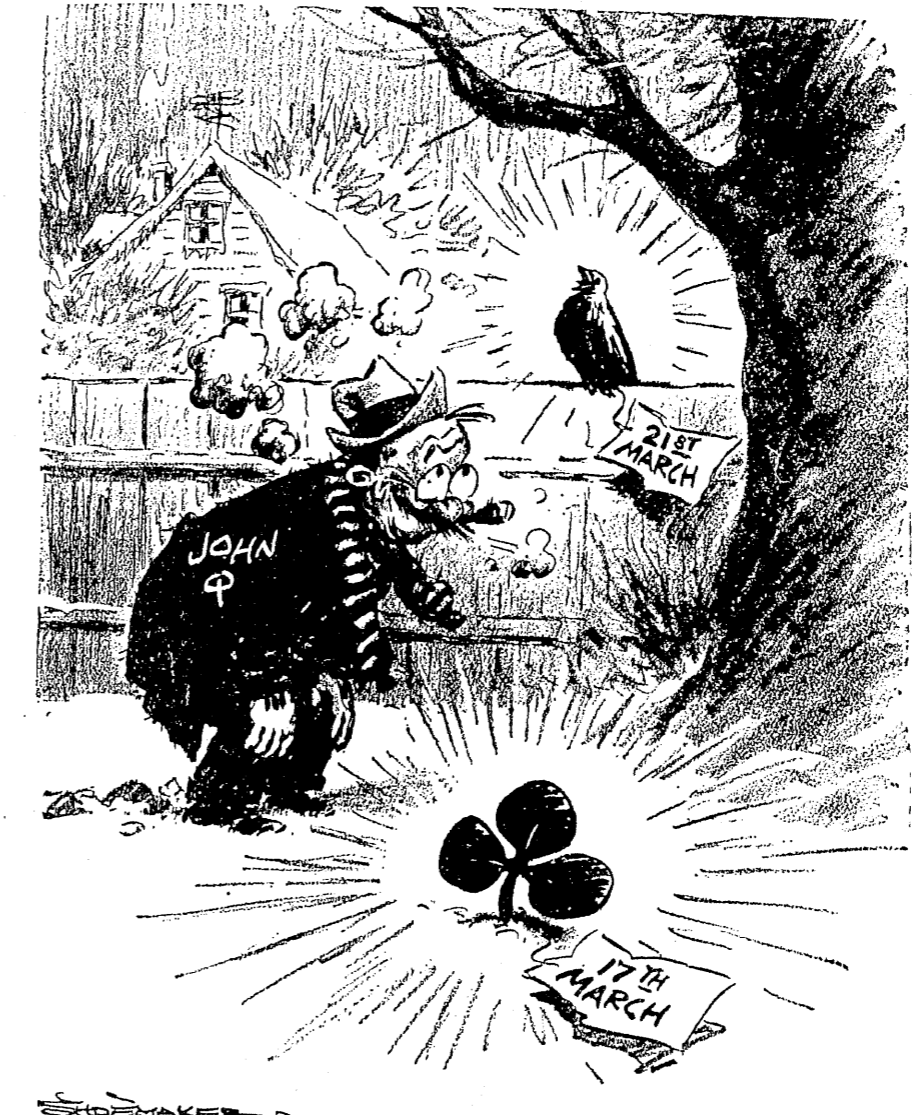
There are several counties from which residents have eight chances to dodge the sheriff. Chatham, Moore and Wake are three that come to mind. The state average is probably five or six.

While we are having a class in geography, let's look at some of the artificial political and governmental districts. Because of a vacancy in the resident judgeship of the 11th Judicial District attention has been called to the fact that is the only governmental district which does not have continuous territory.

The 15th judicial district is not quite so divided as the 11th. It includes the counties of Alexander, Cabarrus, Iredell, Montgomery, Randolph and Rowan. That is the alphabetical listing. A look at the map will show Alexander, Iredell, Rowan and Cabarrus in a block, with Montgomery and Randolph in another block on a wooden nickle will be awarded to anybody who can get from Randolph or Montgomery into Rowan without swimming the Yadkin-Pee Dee river or going outside the district.

The third state senatorial district comprises Northampton, Vance and Warren counties. Another wooden nickle to anybody who can get from Northampton to Warren over a state maintained road without going through Halifax County, which is in the

First Signs Of Spring!



North Carolina Capital Bygone Days

By Lynn Nisbet, Special Correspondent

There is a good feature story coming up for next Sunday's papers about the elevator inspection law and the steps taken by state government to see that all elevators and escalators are installed and operated in such way as to afford greatest possible safety to passengers.

The article was written by Almon Barbour, public relations man for the State Department of Labor—which has responsibility for inspecting elevators. One of the most interesting elements in the overall story probably will not be touched upon in the Barbour article.

Only the Sixth District, embracing Durham, Orange, Alamance and Guilford counties, is completely surrounded by North Carolina territory. The Third touches no land except North Carolina, but it runs 150 miles along the Atlantic coast. The other 10 districts border South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee or Virginia—several of them more than one state.

The Pencil Mystery

A little while ago we broke open a fresh box of pencils—a nice, fresh box of Mirado No. 1's—and fell to wondering, in some embarrassment and dismay, what in the world happened to the last box of pencils. It is the strangest thing. They simply disappear.

Somehow along the line, if you think about the matter carefully, there must be a time when a pencil is sharpened down to a useless stub. At that point, presumably, you throw the stub away. But searching our recollection, we cannot recall more than a couple of times this year that we have actually tossed pencils into a wastebasket.

Only one theory that might explain the mystery is this: By night the pencils go into paperclips. Now, paperclips like the poor, are always with us, multiply like rabbits; we are forever sweeping them up.

Tonight we propose to count the Mirado No. 1's in closing up shop, and if by tomorrow these half a dozen pencils have dwindled to four or five, while the paperclip population has perceptibly increased, then the geneticists can come in. Confidently, we don't believe this theory for a minute, but something mighty odd is going on around here.

—Richmond News-Leader.

The Voice Of Broadway

By Dorothy Kilgallen

MISS MIDDNIGHT'S NOTEBOOK. Jerry Lewis and Dean Martin, on location in Arizona, staged a scene with Hal Wallis that was more hectic than any of their comedy routines—but it wasn't for laughs.

Frankie Laine's throat troubles are more serious than his fans guess. Recording company executives—and the doctors—are worried . . . Fairley Granger's dates with Jeannette are along the "just old friends" line. They played together in "Hans Christian Anderson," which didn't nearly indicate how enchanting the French ballerina could be.

Jackie Gleason is hiding away in the country, near Peekskill, to practice walking on crutches.

The only non-controversial question about Senator Joe McCarthy: Are he and his beautiful Jean Kittingbird's garments? . . . Rosalind Russell has a giant offer to do a two-a-day turn at the Palace next winter. She's tempted, too, because the only form of show biz she hasn't tried is vaudeville.

Hollywood statisticians, who have been working on the possibilities involved in Alan Ladd's 18-month stay abroad (during which time he completed four flickers) figure he may net as much as \$3,000,000 from the brief exile . . . The Andrews Sisters, unable to find a suitable girl singer to replace Patty in the act, are now considering adding a lad.

Eleanor Holm is laughing it up along the Toots Shor-EI Morocco circuit with Bernice Kamber as her charmed escort. Dancer Sheila Bond (late of "Wish You Were Here") and her husband, Leo Cofi, have instructed their lawyers to end it all amicably . . . Broadway dancer-terias and mambo palaces are being visited by authorities checking on Puerto Rican Nationalists.

Spyros Skouras, who writes his letters by dictating telegrams, just paid a one-month Western Union bill of over \$5,000 . . . The last word in showgirl reducing plans is a two-week diet with an alternating schedule. One day you eat anything you want, the next day nothing but tea and un-buttered toast. Guaranteed to work—if you last.

Broadway guessing game: The wife of one of boxing's all-time greats has been clutching the bottle too closely for her own good. Her mother may have the legal petition declaring her "mentally incompetent." . . . A 42nd St. penny arcade does a huge business in stolen goods, sold across the counter as regular merchandise—everything from cigarette lighters to camera equipment. The manager is a fence.

A famed TV comic is the victim of a complete nervous breakdown . . . A faded star, once one of Hollywood's "best dressed" and a terrific moneymaker, was caught parading down Lexington Ave. in the 60s the other night—in her bare feet. She was so full of liquor she didn't know the temperature was freezing.

The recent bad showing of a top fighter is easily explained if you know his financial setup. He owes large sums to his manager and to the Internal Revenue Bureau—and both are getting very impatient.

A recent item in this column revealed that Duke Ellington, a true gourmet, had tasted almost every delectable dish available in the world's top restaurants but yearned to try something he'd never been able to find—pear ice cream.

This earth-shaking intelligence was printed in Muncie, Ind., and read by M. K. Davis, president of the North Star Ice Cream Co., who represents all that is most enterprising in American business. And so it came about that Duke, playing for the Policeman's Ball in Newcastle, Ind., 15 miles from Muncie, received a mid-night treat—five gallons of fresh pear ice cream delivered to him and the orchestra by Davis's night-blooming messengers.

The Duke's gustatorial report, delivered over the long distance phone to New York: "Mmmmmmm, good."

Small wonder the Hollywood bookstores can't keep copies of Speed Lamkin's "The Easter Egg Hunt" in stock. It's the worst thing that's happened to the movie colony since the New Yorker profile.

Imogene Coca has been getting the big boot call from Las Vegas. They'd like her to come on out and do "anything at all" for simply thousands and thousands a week. And the may do it, as soon as her TV plans for next season are crystallized.

TEN YEARS AGO

Nazi air fighters downed 125 B-24 bombers during the aerial battles over Europe yesterday. London reports Yank fighters have downed over 500 enemy planes this month, making a total of 2,340 for 1944.

Don M. Stafford and Odell Lambeth have been named manager and assistant manager of the Gregg Cherry gubernatorial campaign in Greensboro and rural Guilford, State Campaign Director W. B. Umstead reports.

City council was expected to act on the sale of \$65,000 bonds, authorized some time ago, to take over the warehouse on Commerce Place by a curb market commission.

Rehearsals have started at Woman's College for the Easter cantata composed and arranged by Mrs. Hermene Warlick Eichhorn.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Ben Cone today announced his candidacy for the Legislature. Dr. Francis P. Venable, former president of the University of North Carolina, died in Richmond, Va.

March 17 is the anniversary of the big snow of 1843, which completely obliterated rail fences throughout this area. Oldtimers recall being told of sleighs driven over the tops of fences.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

Republican Fifth District convention today adjourned until April 12 when a candidate for Congress will be named. Charles C. Hartmann today announced James T. Morehead had completed plans for erection of a 12-story hotel at Sycamore and Greene Streets.

Mrs. Linwood Williams and son are in Columbia, S. C., to visit the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Wells.

FORTY YEARS AGO

Presidents of educational institutions throughout the state were here today for the installation of Dr. S. B. Denton as president of Greensboro College. Gov. Locke Craig was speaker.

Taz Rogers, Negro fighter, died of a broken neck last night at the city camp. He had worked with other prisoners during the day and in some way a verlaabra was dislocated.

Annual meeting of North Carolina Peace Society will be held here over the week end.

All In A Lifetime

