Events Prompt Excellent Editorials

The rapid apparent development of a change in U. S. foreign policy has prompted very little public response, but it has produced a few excellent editorials here in North Carolina.

Eisenhower's April 16, 1953 foreign policy address before the American Society of Newspaper Editors set a chain of events into motion that are still moving.

On June 3, Senator Flanders of Vermont introduced SCR 32, a very significant bill containing President Eisenhower's recommendations of April 16 plus other steps necessary for peace.

In July, the Senate adopted SCR 126 which established funds and a committee to study changes necessary in the UN Charter.

On July 29, the Senate voted unanimously to adopt SCR 46, a less strong version of SCR 32.

Dr. Clarence Poe's historical editorial in the September issue of *The Progressive Farmer,* "World Peace Is Everybody's Business," was the first editorial in the nation to comprehend the full significance and urgency of the aforementioned events. This editorial should be read, studied and fully understood by every real American. (The editorial in the August issue is also very timely and thoughtful.)

"World Peace," says Dr. Poe, "is everybody's business. That means that—at least in a democracy like ours—everybody *can* and *should* do something about it."

Dr. Poe, President and Editor of *The Progressive Farmer,* summarized the program for world peace outlined in the above events as follows:

> "1. For lifting the world's present crushing burden of war preparations by equitably reducing "the size of the military and security forces of all nations."
>
> 2. For International Control of Atomic energy to promote its use for peaceful purposes only and to insure the prohibition of atomic weapons.
>
> 3. To use the United Nations as the supreme agency for promoting, supervising, policing, and enforcing all such programs of peaceful disarmament."

On the 21 August, it was revealed that the State Department was discussing UN Charter Revision in 1955 with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman.

Then on August 26, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, addressing the American Bar Association, declared that the "pre-atomic age" Charter of the UN should "be altered in some important aspects" if the UN is to end the menace facing the world today. He stated that the U. S. would vote in favor of a special UN Charter revisional conference in 1955.

Mr. Spencer Murphy, consistent prize-winning Editor of the Salisbury *Evening Post,* writing in one of the first, if not the first, editorials encompassing the whole chain of significant events of this summer, stated: "The incident, the circumstances, the background are all unique. Each in its separate category is unique; combined they present a *moment of significance without parallel in history.*" (Italics added.) He states further: "Upon the volume and consistency of that residue (a central core of essential aspirations within the UN) rests the fate of Dulles' unqualified demand for revision of the Charter of the United Nations; upon such a revision rests the fate of the United Nations; and in the destiny of the United Nations rests the fate of mankind.

"Humanity is moving rapidly toward either justification or obliteration."

The Greensboro *Daily News* stated in an equally timely and emphatic editorial that: "Now is the time for men of greatness to find ways to make the UN more effective. The need for a new approach actually is a matter of life or death. The world's two Goliaths stand poised with power in their hands to destroy civilization. This is no time to speak of withdrawing. This is the time to throw our best talents into finding ways to sustain and build the grand alliance against tyranny.

"This chance may not come our way again."

(It is inspiring to note that the most comprehending and timely editorials on these historical events were produced by North Carolinians in North Carolina periodicals.)

The American people are urged to follow these events closely and keep posted on them. Inform your friends of them—discuss them and express your opinions on them.

In a democracy—even in times of stress and anxiety—the opinions of the people need to be expressed because they are heeded—if they are in sufficient volume. (These editorials are available from your AFA State office.)

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How To Approach A New Member Or Investor

(The following is roughly an approach that has been used by Board Chairman, Oscar K. Merritt, for interesting new members and contributors in A.F.A. Try it: you will see that it is sound.)

1. Discuss briefly the national and international situation (Don't do all the talking. Let the person do his own elaborating.)

2. Bring up certain basic truths about these conditions, such as danger to our freedoms and economy; taxes; threat of Communism; position of U. S. and free world.

3. Don't thrust your "pat" theories on the person. Don't advocate specific "solutions," such as preventative war, Atlantic Union, limited world government, Quota Force Plan, withdrawal from the UN, etc. Present the facts and let the person elaborate. Don't argue and start a controversy.

4. Point out what is being done and sources of information. (i.e. Eisenhower's April speech, Dulles' address, editorials, SCR 46 and 32, the stand of Churches and other organizations, etc.)

Ask the person whether or not he is aware of this information and sources of information. (Don't explain the position of Eisenhower, Dulles, etc., necessarily—just point out that more people should know about them and formulate opinions regardless of whether or not they approve of what Eisenhower and others stand for.

5. Explain that most people aren't aware of this and other significant information; that our Nation will not improve its situation unless more people know more of the facts and express their opinions, and ask for or approve action.

6. Point out that A.F.A. provides this information and more; that A.F.A. will keep its members, organizations, and the public up-to-date.

7. Explain how A.F.A. will function on a local community level.

8. Explain operation of A.F.A. on State level—show A.F.A. Advisory Board and Directors (see August *A.F.A. Bulletin.* Extra copies available free). Point out that no other organization is doing this job—that A.F.A. has a full-time Executive Director.

9. Explain that President Eisenhower and the U.N. may suffer the same fate of Wilson and the League of Nations unless many more people are informed soon enough.

10. Explain that such a program costs money—literature, printing, mailing, secretarial services, travel expenses, salary, office expenses, other materials, etc.

a. Explain that most people can't get out and do the job themselves, but they can help to do their part by joining A.F.A. and making a regular contribution—$1—$2, $5, $10, $25, $50 per month.

b. A CONTRIBUTION IS AN INVESTMENT AND NOT A DONATION. IF WE SUCCEED, IT WILL HAVE BEEN AN EXCELLENT AND MODEST INVESTMENT AND WILL PROVIDE PRICELESS DIVIDENDS. IF WE FAIL, WE WILL LOSE EVERYTHING ANYWAY. A PERSON CAN HONESTLY REFUSE TO INVEST ONLY IF HE FIRMLY BELIEVES THAT THERE IS NO HOPE AND NO POSSIBLE WAY OUT.

(If this approach is used properly, the prospective member or investor will be grateful that you took the time and interest to talk to him. He will be more than glad to help out in this urgent work.)

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Program And Policy Committee Meets

The A.F.A. Program and Policy Committee met August 30 at Rocky Mount. Board Chairman, Merritt, conducted a brief but thorough and productive session covering the following:

1. The basic program of A.F.A. will be:

   a. Promote UN Week and Day as an occasion to explain facts about the UN—its strengths and weaknesses.

   b. Promote throughout the Nation the High School World Peace Study and Speaking Program, especially concentrating on this area.

   c. Every member of the A.F.A. Branch Executive Council to keep his organization up-to-date on national, international, and local developments pertaining to world law and its relation to religion, peace and freedom.

   d. Provide a clearing house for speakers and materials.

A. In addition, if possible the A.F.A. program will include:

   a. Sponsorship on a local level of the *World Peace Roundup* or similar radio program.

   b. The local A.F.A. Branch to have every community organization use UN Information Kits to inform its members.

   c. Each Branch Executive Council to hold at least one (and perhaps more) Panel Discussion on the pros and cons of different proposals for world peace and what their community organizations stand for.

2. The Committee also approved model Charters and By-Laws for local A.F.A. Branches.

3. Approved a mailing of current pertinent information to North Carolina newspaper editors.

4. Approved preparation of literature on relations of world law to religion, peace and freedom.

5. Approved preparation of proposed envelope stuffers.

6. Approved the holding of an A.F.A. Dinner in Greensboro commemorating the Founding of A.F.A. This Dinner will be the occasion for releasing news of the founding of A.F.A. and for stating the program and policy of A.F.A.

7. Approved A.F.A.'s cooperating with other adult education organizations, such as the American Heritage Association.

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Report Of The Treasurer

The following monthly pledges have been received by the Treasurer:

Place	No. of Pledges	Total Monthly Amount
Mount Airy	21	$325.49
Greensboro	2	35.00
Charlotte	1	25.00
Salisbury	1	25.00
Rocky Mount	5	25.00
Fayetteville	2	20.00
Spray	1	5.00
Asheville	1	5.00
Tennessee	1	5.00
New Mexico	1	5.00
	36	$475.49

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Inertia can destroy us. It has destroyed fine ideas, excellent plans and noble movements. Only *you* can prevent it from destroying us, and our Nation, and our civilization.

The efforts of a few A.F.A. members have already proven that A.F.A. is *readily* and *eagerly* accepted by *any* normal person, *if* you take a few moments to explain it to them and ask them to invest.

Friends, we dare not let this opportunity, perhaps our last, to be taken from us by that evil god Inertia.