

## EDITORIAL PAGE THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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## No Shortage Here

Charlotte, it is plain to see from the figures, has not yet attained to any state of behavior where doors may be left unlocked at night. There is, in fact, a plentiful assortment of crime and misdemeanor in this proud eity. One sometimes wonders if we are doing enough about correcting and preventing it, or even examining the causes of it.

That the police do their park—and a burry part it is—seems to be evident from the recapituation of the rough starf the police had to deal with in 1944. Leaving out the 6.455 case of traffic violations and the 3.332 arrests for drunkenness, both of which fall within the category of human fobles, some of the more enterprising criminal activities were —

Burglaries—598 Murders—18.

Murders—18.

There, mates, is a good deal of vicious behavior, Some of it is purely impulsive—a sort of spontaneous combustion, so to speak, Most of the murders and assaults would fall within that category. They weren't planned; they just happened. But the robberles and the burglaries are different. Few persons, we dare say, ever found themselves burgling without having set out, with precisely

dars say, ever found themselves burgling without having set out with precisely that undertaking in mind.

And the 588 burglares in Charlotte in 1946 (these were 500 the year before) seem to testify to the unchecked existence of an element in our population which lives by lawlessness. The large number of these gentry safely put away in prison appears not to reduce the extent of operations in the field. Arrest and punishment, it is plain, don't break with the same are date of their from enun the game nor deter others from en-

gaging in it.

We have a lot to learn, we highlycivilized citizens, about crime, what
causes it and how to deal with it.

#### A Tay Ceiling?

North Carolina's General Assembly, which is only one of the 42 state legis-latures now in regular session, has been importuned to join those seventeen which have already petitioned Congress to place a 25 per cent limit on Federal

when move anexal yectuone congress when Wyoming's legislature took action, and grew rapidly.

There is some doubt as to the validity of a few of these petitions, however. In Kentucky, the lower branch reached its action after voting. And in Arkansas and Pennsylvania the petitions were never given the assent of the Governors, which some authorities claim to be necessary in such action. And others of the petitions attached a clause to the proposed amendment providing that Congress, by a three-fourths vote, might diaregard the 25 per cent limitation in time of war.

time of war.

But, setting these aspects of the movement aside, the matter is of great consequence to every American. The movement, as you can see her annual contents. sequence to every American. The movemome popular, out of the natural premome popular, out of the second presolution of the second premome popular premom

portion spending in relation to national Income.

There are opponents of the scheme who call this the "Millionalres' Amendment." They point out that it would prevent the nation from preparing for war before its outbreak, that it would preclude a balanced budget and reduction of the debt. The present Federal income tax begins at 23 per cent, so that the proposal would give rollet to the well-to-do at the expense of those of limited income. These critics use examples like this:

A man with a \$10,000 income feels a

mpies like this: A man with a \$10,000 income feels a A man with a \$10,000 income rees a \$2,500 tax much more than a man with a \$100,000 income feels a \$25,000 tax—and they add that, if three-fourths of such large incomes were left free of taxation, the remainder might well go into inflationary speculation of the type that brought ruin in the twenties.

Three-fourths of the states must ratify this proposal before Congress takes

it up in convention. In every state yet to it up in convention. In every state yet to consider it, this amendment must be exactfully examined. High taxes in these times are a wearying burden to most Americans, but there is every reason why our aversion to paying them now should hot lead us to erect an arbitrary, per-manent barrier.

### What Of This?

Any brand-new, completely novel suggestion deserves at least its day in court. Messer Tim Pridgen, in his articles on housing last week, made what was, so far as we know, a brand-new suggestion. It was that the City of Charlotte might well consider setting up a Home Service Department.

Service Department.

Tim's opinion came out of a wrestling match between (a) his conviction that to raise the level of humanity in Charlotte, better places to live were essential, and (b) his awareness that better places to live might soon become wore places to live might soon become work new, or were taught, how to take care of them.

knew, or were taught, how to take care of them.

A Home Service Department sounds somewhat like, and could turn out to be simply a Fancy Notion, the fruition of an urge to do somethat thing on the double-quick for humanity that has been a long time getting even so far as it has got. But we dumo. You take that conservative, unhupfred "institution known as Mecklenburg Country people farm agents and home agents, and considered that it was sticking wholly to the practical rather than soaring into accoracy, are all city people supposed it know about home-making simply because they have been considered articles and the sound ings? Are they allow tearning? Has the community much or little to gain in trying to teach them?

trying to teach them? Sam at We raise the questions without attempting any answer, mainly to further the suggestion. We'd like to add, however, that once there has been implanted to the way in which they live, a long start toward better citizenship has been made.

#### Greatest Offensive

The vast Russian offensives in Poland, though described only in the most general terms, surpass the imagination, if our conception of the magnitude of Eastern Front operations is not totally false, this is far and away the greatest offensive of the war. From the frantic German reports of the unending masses of men and machines of the Red Army, from the spectacular advances made in the first few days, this outclasses any push we have been able to mount in the West.

Surpassing even the slashing American drive out of the Cotentin Peninsula and on beyond Paris, this Russian onslaught apparently carries before it all the enemy's prepared positions. It sweeps him out of great cities, as at Warsaw and Krakow, and it pushes through open country, even into German Silesia.

As Associated Press story of yesterday, which The News edited sharply (and later correction by AP altered 1t) used this startling sentence: The vast Russian offensives in Poland,

Three great Russian armies, 2,000,000 strong on a 250-mile front, were fast liberating all Poland after the capture of Warsaw, Radom, and Czestochowa, and the Germans were reported falling back to their next natural line of defense, the Oder River 30 miles from Berlin.

back to their next natural line of defense, the Oder River 30 miles from Berlin.

That seemed a dangerous assumption to our editors on the copy desk, but it raised a breath-taking possibility, none-needess. The fact is that the Russians already stand on the banks of the long, winding Oder, which at its nearest point is only 30 miles from Berlin. Near Crestocheova that river cuts through the battle cone, but as a possible defense limit is in underest of miles long, and of the most part lies far ahead of the advancing Russians. We know enough of the German ability to stand to defenses to prevent a fresh wave of over-optimism from sweeping the country. But we cannot discount the possibility that the Russians, driving all before them these first few days, may steal the European spotlight and provide the most exciting answer to the fate of Germany in the months ahead.

## The Toll Of Death

DURING 1944 death took its usual high toll the arth. The new World Almane, which lists these deaths as "Notable Deaths of World House about 100 memes of those the about 100 memes of those the about 100 mems of the about 100 mems of the arthur and died in action, the roll is lost a partial roll taken from the larger one:

colo.

George Ade, 78, humorist. Jules S. Baches, St. Jinancier. Princess Beatrice, 67, Vectoria's Gaughter. Leen Blum, 71, French Books, S. Books, G. Dough, G. Doughts, Smith Brookhart, 78, Books, Carter, 45, Carter, 45,

composer.

Wang Ching-wei, 82, Chinese qualing,
Raymond Clapper, 51, columnist. Irvin 8.

Raymond Clapper, 51, columnist. Irvin 8.

Reymond Clapper, 51, columnist. Irvin 8.

Reymond The Reymond The Reymond The Reymond Parkets,
Reymond H. Davis, Red Cross head,
Reid Marantal Sir John Dill, 62, Alan Dineheart, 42, actor. Erneat duPont, 63, powder
massidification. Joseph B. Bastinan, 61, diParket was time transportation. Norman A.

Sabratello, 82, see backedal sets. Albert B.

Fall, 83, ex-Secretary of Interior. James Ferguson, 73, ex-Governor of Texas.

# The Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

PRESIDENTS of the United States have been inauquitated all over the country, from New York where Cocrew Washington took the first oath of office, to a hun after Harding's death. But tomorrow will be the second time in history that a President has taken the oath in the White House. Previous precedent was in 1876 when Rutherford S. Hayes, Republican, Filden, Democrat. Tilden had the larger popular vote, but Hayes finally obtained a majority of one vote in the electoral college on March 3, 1877.

Tilden, Democrat. Tilden had the larger popular vote, but Hayes finally obtained a majority of one vote in the electoral college on March 3, 1877.

The control of the con

#### Harding & Wilson

Harding & Wilson

One of the most ring tripe to the Criph's for any President, was a most of wilson we can be considered to the Criph's for any cleek Warren G. Harding, Wilson was crubed mentally and physically by the defeat of his League of Nations. He was partially paralyzed, but insisted on riding with Harding to the Capitol. Harding told friends he was during the ride up Fennsylvania Avenue.

Wilson, however, broke the fee by remarking that this was the first time the President-feetch and discarded a team of horses to ride to the Capitol in an automobile. This led to a conversation about animals.

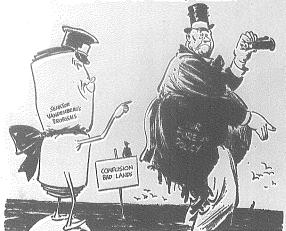
Favorite animal is the elephant."

Total him, 'Harding recounted to friends later, "Total him,' Harding recounted to friends later,"

favorite animal is the elephant."
"I told him," Harding recounted to friends later,
"that it was, but not for political reasons. I then told
him a story about a sister of mine who lived in Siam

sa a missionary and had a pet cicphant. This beat had been kept by my shier for years, in fact fer sheet of her ille. Upon my shier's clesh in Slam, the cicro fer ille. Upon my shier's clesh in Slam, the circ was a shier of her ille. Upon my shier's clesh in Slam, the circumstance of her ille. Upon my shier's clesh in Slam, the circumstance of the control of the c

"Wanta Hire A Guide, Mister?"



## The Fourth Inaugural By Marauis Childs

By Marqu
WASHINOTON
WASHINOTON
I the White House in these first weeks of the new year, as the President and his staff of assistants have worked on the reports and messages which traditionally are sent to each new session of Congress.

This time, following the budget message and the staff of assistants have worked on the reports and messages which traditionally are sent to each new session of Congress.

This time, following the budget message and the staff of the staff

to me, will show that, more often than not, circumsiances dictated the road he took.

The President has said that this fourth Inaugural address will be shorter than any of the other three. It will be part of a private ceremony to be held with wartime brevity and simplicity on the south portico of the White House.

time brevity and simplicity on the south portice of the White House.

Those who are working on the first draft of what the President eventually will reshape in his own language to the provided decorate for a guide, than go back to an analysis of the president of the press. It is in another respect that the plain speech of a consumer and a half ago seems to me to commend itself to the fourth-term President.

to the fourth-term President.

In a memorable conclusion, Jufferson shows the humility that is a mark of true greatness.

"I shall now enter on the duties to which my fellow elitients have again called me, and shall proceed in the spirit of those principles which they have approved. I fear not that any motives of interest may lead me astray; I am sensible of no passion which would oeduce me knowingly from the path of justice; but the weakness of human rature, and the limits of my own understands of human rature, and the limits of my own understands to your interests. I shall need, therefore the war in full certainly not lesson with increasing years."

## To The Folks Back Home

HAVE always thought that, in order for a Congression of the total property of the total

times let me hear from them.

One of the worst problems of some of the new Congressmen has been that of finding a place to live—a problem so very preading, in fact, and the constant of the control of t

Fortunately, I have been spared

this inconvenience as my wifecousin. Mrs. Gordon Billingsley,
who has lived here for a number
of years, found for us a small, but
conifortable furnished house at 2333
N. Perahing Drive, in Arlington,
when this per took "safe uncellatance to tell us about it, Inciclaratile, we were pleased to find
in the yard two mimoca frees,
which are, naturally, reminders of
the perahing the property of the
2023 and my office telephone is Oche2023 and my office telephone is
National 3120, extension 607.
My office is No. 322 in the old

4923 and my office telephone is National 3120, extension 007.

Biy office is No. 322 in the old control of the control of the cated about 18 miles from my home. On my way to and from work I, pass impairing reminders of four great Americans. These are the Jefferson Memorial, the Machine of Robert E. Lee.

Naturally, many events which are routine to the older members of Congress are highly interesting to new members, such as attending nominated the Democratic candidates for officers of the House, attending the first meeting of the

one of you,

Paithfully yours,

—REP. JOE W. ERVIN

Washington, D. C.

SIDE GLANCES



"I don't understand the club's great concern over the plight of the white collar man when most of our husbands wear soft shirts!".

# **Our Sagging Morale**

By Samuel Grafton

No peculiar merit in these premise. We did out best to stay out: we maneuvered, we finagled, we pleaded with Hiller, we sold out the Spanish Republic, we peddied out exactly like a country which had no taste at all for a moral crusade, which kind of country, in put the season of th

let. That we awoke on a Thursday morning, robed ourselves in white, and set out to save the world, but hold this against us. I do not take a moral attitude against a fact, say more than I fake a moral attitude against pike's Peak.

But we have developed bytema.

any more than I take a moral at-titude against Picks Peak.

But we have developed Interna-tional moral ideals since the war-began, and we have gained wide reputier support for them, and the Congress to them, and that is progress; and the plain truth is that we are morally sounder now than we were several years ago.

The isolationist Senators are car-rring on today about the Atlantic Charter, as if it had been formal-ing the property of the property of the lad written it, and as if Roose-velt were throwing it out. But the Atlantic Charter was not raulfied

NEW YORK.

It is monatrous that a mond of seconding upon some of us, just as we near the hour of vickory.

Where do these would not have voied for it, their first comments on it, in Australy 4 and vickory.

Where do these would not have voied for it, their first comments on it, in Australy 4 and vickory.

Where do these would not have voied for it, but it is a new treaty affirming international principles were to be proposed tomogrow, these isolationists possed tomogrow, these isolationists proceed tomogrow, these isolationists proceed tomogrow, these isolationists would not be studelers for every detail they have been dead to the first proceed to morrow, these isolationists would be studelers for every detail they shall be studelers for every detail the story that we entered the war in the story that we entered the war in the story that we entered the war in the story that we have the story that they are distressed because that initial intention is not being realized to the fall. But we entered the war because we will like do do this, in order to prove realed during the last three years, they have been because that initial intention is not being realized to the fall. But we entered the war because we will like do do this, in order to prove realed during the last three years, they were the proposition of the world the students of darkets glown as the day of victory comes closer through the three through the three through the three through the three thr

prepoterous titless and the proposerous titless and the say of victory comes closer?

Their song is that we have some-how falled, that we have become marally worse than we were three many controlled the proposerous and controlled the proposerous and controlled the proposerous and the p

# Learning To Hate

By Hal Boyle

It seemed kind of funny then. The Yanks were new to battle and It seemed kind of finmy then, the Yanks were new to battle and over-eager to be sentiamanilke in the Yanks were new to battle and over-eager to be formalline troops were quick to offer their clagarettes and acree checolies in German prissipation of the properties of the years of years

Typical of the American attitude today is the message one group of the \$2nd Airborne Division gave to

By Hal Boyle

WITH THE FIRST ARMY IN

BELGIUM — (A) — The American
soldier on the western front at hat
has learned to hate the German Prisoners
soldier on the heater front at hat
has learned to hate the German
soldier on the season of the Third
One who remembers the Tunisian Sicillan and early Italian campains cannot fail to be impressed
with the differcrue between the
toward the century
then and now,
In previous
campakers caps
cert urid to say
half-chummity:
"Well, setter all,
whalf-chummity:
"Well setter all,
whalf-chummity:
"It is seen de the thirt was commander
who are the reckless battlers
which the view of one
Americans. Whatemed the view of one
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Althorne Division is here and recofor a good fight, the microsope
These are the reckless hattiers
with ammunition - laden uniforms
when the Nazis have nicknamed
the bays with the big proket.

American tank commander
whose men spearheaded the
drive to Houffalize.

"The German troops still left
et to Houffalize.

"The German troops still left
et to fight to the end," he said
grimty. "Well, we want to help
them along."

Some soldenseasmen sakes home
to emphasize unconditional surrenter terms in too strett a manner,
believing that this is the best properety well aspect to the said of the
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The American soldier, after more than three years of war, has learn-ed to hate.

# Quote, Unquote

A GERMAN column short at up before they found it was a second in the second in the second in the second in the second in and gave them 30 minutes to set reary to leave—took the whole bunch as prisoners of war. Some of the soldiers got away—I remember one of them are the second in t

Fill