School Crisis

diers not financially reble for the support of Meckien-choels, it may be that we have no as putting in a word about the oming special tax election. But ans are primarily Mecklenburghers, and, as such keenly interght for County schools—most of it go to teachers and janitors.

to go to teachers and janitors.

It is as Mecklenburghers, earnestly seeking the forward progress of the county and its people, that we support the new tax. We halfway suspect that we have the new tax. We halfway suspect that the new tax. We halfway suspect that the new tax. We halfway the properties of the final day of registration for the election, and up until today the registration had been extremely light. Proponents of the new tax fear that this manifest lack of public interest will result in defeat. They point out that, with such a light vote in prospect, it will be easy for a small group of opponents to organize and defeat the tax.

This was bettern would be a blow.

This, we believe would be a blow which would errously impair the efficiency of Mecklenburg schools. Already, of course, the system has lost great numbers of teachers to other occupations. It heady needs additional funds to compete with industry for personnel, and it is an established fact that our teachers are among the most grossly underpaid of professional people. It seems certain that, with the failure of this special tax, a good many more teachers will desert.

And in this light the coming elecdon boils down to an issue; Mecklen-burg either believes that it is entitled to better schools, or that it is entitled to better schools, or that the State aver-age is good enough. But the State aver-age does not exist in Mecklenburg at all. In this area there is competition age does not exist in Meckienburg at all. In this area there is competition with industry, with the City school sys-tem, and with all manner of other fields which does not exist in most North Caro-lina counties. Consequently, Mecklen-burg's average should be much higher. Surgs average should be much higher.
And if the county cannot bring itself
to vote a 20-cent increase in high and
prosperous times, when the schools are
in great need, it seems unlikely that it
will ever rally to their support.

Educational Tour

Col. Hayden A. Searl, an officer with the U. S. armored forces which took the town of Ohrdruf, Germany, had a whale town of Ohrdruf, Germany, had a whale of an idea. It might even be put in the inspiration class.

It was Col. Searl's men who discovered the Ohrdruf concentration camp. A horrible sight assailed their eyes and a worse smell their noses. They saw "sev-eral hundred bodies" of foreign workers "piled like timber in one building, heaped in a tangled mass in a wide pit where apparently some effort had been made to burn them, and sprawling in the open spaces between barracks."

spaces between barracks."

Many of the bodies had a single bullet hole in the back of their heads. In one spot victims apparently were made to kneel in a circle to be killed by an executioner who walked behind them. Altogether, it was estimated that somewhere between 1,500 and 4,700 foreign workers were killed or died of starvation in the Ohrdruf concentration cann, it also and a treeriow point, and the evidence and abrutality was still fresh and unmistakable.

A good look around and Col. Searl had his idea. He rounded up some 40 leading ans idea. He rounded up some 40 leading citizens of the town of Ohrdruf and took them on a personally-conducted tour of the concentration camp, "Here," he said, "you may gaze upon the work of your precious Elite Guard." The burghers graced. At first they were openly skep-tical. "The 85 isn't like that," they said. But gradually what they saw forced them to believe. "It's the work of beasts," a German doctor said.

Thus at one brilliant stroke this American Colonel slashed through the screen of Goobbels' propaganda and to these 40 Germans revealed the Nazis as they are. These 40 will help to spread the word, but that is not enough. It is the seeing that is believing, and we pro-pose that such places as OhrGruf be left as they are, in all their horror, until every German man, woman and child shall have been ushered through them to see the handlwork of their country-men.

He's Still Bob

It's almost a society item, we suppose, but Bob Reynolds is back in Washington—or on his 1,500-acre Maryland farm—after a three-month slests on his Palm Beach estate. His hair is cut shorter, so our reporter says; he's running a pulpwood farm, though no wood has been cut; he plans to raise chickens and turkeys. And he will continue to publish The National Record.

Bob sounds as chipper as ever, He's at work every morning at nine, practicing law. And he's evidently enloying life with his fifth wife, the former Evalyn Walsh McLean. And he doesn't feel left out of things, these days. He says a whole lot of North Carolinians think he is still in the Senate, and that think he is suil a steady stream of callers, and big batches of mail. We don't know who those folks could be, but it doesn't

What matters is The Record, which still echoes Bob's old hates of the days when he was batting Britain and Russia, and reads not unlike the intimous The Cross & The Flag which Bob once praised so highly. It reads, indeed, as if the America First party (which wanted to run Bob for President last November) might be interested in the paper.

might be interested in the paper.

Bob's voice, of course, will be dilminished in the time to come, for he cannot speak as chairman of the Senate's
Poreign Relations Committee. But he
can swing some weight with the remaining Bundait fringes in the country,
and he can contribute to disunion
among the United Nations. He can help
persuade Americans that the true menace in the East is Russla, and not Japan. And he can continue to yelp that
the menace, in Europe is not Germany,
but Britain.

but Britain.

His paper, which he styles as a "transmission belt of information" carrying articles from other papers — "mostly selected by me" — dismisses the war briefly, shouting that we must win if irst, and then proceed to mind our own business. He still harps on Lend-Lease, which he regards as an evil instrument of war, and he still tussies with the bogey of Communism. In short, he's still Bob, and still kleking.

Modern radar is only another scienti-fic application of the echo principle, an earlier type being the yes-man.

A Mutineer

Now you know one reason that Senate committeemen are going to emit a stern rebuke for OPA. It isn't, as they've said, rebuke for OPA. It lant, as they've said, that they think the agency has done a poor job of controlling the meat supply, and that it has been unable to combat the black market in meats. It is because some of the Senators don't believe in OPA, think it has no right to control food or anything else.

South Dakota's Republican Senator Bushfield, who has long since won his letter as a wild man, splited the beans, "If my family needs meat I am going to get it wherever I can," he said yesterday, And he hinted broadly that he'd do that thing, OPA regulations or no.

That surely bespeaks a lack of con-fidence in our ability to ration our re-sources for war, and in itself is a telling blow against OPA and other war agen-cies. There will doubtless be thousands cies. There will doubtless be thousands of Americans who agree with Senator Bushfield—else there would be no black market. But as a U. S. Senator, speaking thusly, he certainly reflected no credit upon the Senate, South Dakots, or himself.

Remark, suitable for a sidewalk con-versation anywhere east of the Rhine; "Oh, look, this is Patton, wasn't it?"

Statesmen At Work

(Berious, facetious and comic excerpts from the Congressional Record).

(Berious, facestious and comite exceepts from the Congressional Record).

SEN. WHERRY (Neb.) Mr. Preadent, for, only for our military needs but for the needs of the past free weets, and, in fact, time in the present of our allies, for the civilian population, and for the invested that have been caused by Lendfoldstuffs, primaryly for the reason that its abuse the first of the country of the co

The Merry-Go-Round

PERSONALITY Over U. S. coddling of German prisoners of var resched fever pitch on Capital Hill see showing stavred Yankes prisoners just liberated and the second showing the bodies of persons killed in a German prison camp. So horrible twer these photos that Restucky's Andrew Jackson May, chairman of the House Military Affects of the Capital Capita

Chairman May fell back upon the old line about "adhering to the Geneva

"We are going far beyond the Geneva requirements," back Sikes, "while our enemies are failing to live to those requirements,"

up to those requirements."

Here Committee Counsel Raiph Burton chimed in that the Army is doing a good job of handling war prisoners, maintaining that if we treat German prisoners.

Blice, however, stilleded Barton's recent report on conditions at the Papage Park, Aria, prison camp, and his mere general report issued hast December. The Firefal Congressman expectably complained because they were lossed as committee reports, when actually they were lossed as committee reports, when actually they start,

Big Oil Scramble

Very quietly the big old companies here already begun angling for one of the most covered pleese or very properly in the U. St. —the two pleelines built to carry oil to the Atlantic seaboard. On its disposal depends the price which the people of New York and adjoining areas will pay for their cooking gas during the next decade. On their disposal also depends the future consumption.

There are two playelines, the Big Inch and the Big Little Inch, rushed to completion during the authorities meanage in order to bring gaseline and oil to the Eastern seaboard. Altogether they total 2,129 mille of direct line and 433 miles of gashering physician. The company or combine which gots this price will have one of the most important war properties in the centrity.

Secret Contra

time without consulting Congress or the Surplus Property Board.

This previes was neatly tended into the law which created the plealines by Jesse Zener ErC Deny, melorises for currying favor with the high elf companies. With Preddent Streams are with effect, the RTC has interested to the reason and the effect, the RTC has interested to the reason and the effect, the RTC has interested to the reason and the effect, the RTC has interested between the RTC un of the oil companies operating the Government pipelines are kept absolutely secret. If you ask to se then, you will be told it's a war server. Meanwhile all other Government contracts are open for any taxpayer's inspection. Obviously no military secure. Meanwhile all other Covernment contracts are open for their location in plantly marked and is no secret.

Only the contract between the operating oil companies and the RTC is secret. Meanwhile, the beckstegs jockeying for post-war control continues.

Why Russia Cracks Swiss

There is a great deal more than meets the naked in Russia's recent bissts against "little Switzerland."

GOOD LUCK HARRY!



The American Calamity

By Marquis Childs

THE magnitude of the calamity that has befallen it this nation at this hour no one can measure. It will be seen only in the long perspective of history. Even President Roosevelt's blaterest enomies, those who have cherished for him nothing but hatred, must see what his loss means to us, coming as it does at the very ment when final victory has a attreet beer of a new world; coming on the structure of the present of the pre

significance. Let us say it now in this hour. Let us say, that the victory is his rictory. Out of the Irresolution, the doubt, the uncertainty of just live rears ago, when our familiar security seemed to disappear before our syste, he brought section and resolve. And out that action and resolve has grown the onlishy tyrerio of America's strength around the globe.

The parallel with the end of the civil was occurs at once. Innount death came as armies of the North at once. Innounts death came as armies of the North was once to the North and South was the package of partianantly crowded in. The hope of an orderly, decent adjustment between North and South was shattered, and we have paid the pennity over since.

sintured, and we have paid the penalty ever since.
Seen in the perspective of history, Andrew Johnson of Tennessee was not a weked man nor a stupid
in the grip of insoorable forces.
Surely we need not repeat that tragedy. Surely
we can rise above partiannship in this hour of supreme
need.

need.

So much depends upon the modest-appearing man who early Thursday evening took the oath of the highest office in the land. A natural and unassumed modesty, has always been one of this conspicuous char-

uis Childs

acteristics. The fearful burden that is now his will

awe him as it should.

The fearful burden that is now his will

awe him as it should.

It is true that those considerations of politics, it is true that those considerations for politics, it is true that those consideration have dominated his eareer in public life. Yet he proved in the Sensie, as chairman of the Defense in the sense of the sense, as chairman of the Defense in the would be an enormously heartening act if at the moment the new Fresdeet should form something like a coalition Covernment, bringing in from the outside all those who could hend strength to the winning of the peace.

Tuman will certainly keep in offise General Marbalal, Admiral King and General Arnold, who have built our forces to commanding strength—Our-enemies on both sides of the world can take no hope from what is our winning the fear the first blasse—the vinnings of the Peace.

sides of the world can take no hops from what is our own tragedy.

It is in the final phase—the winning of the pasce without which a military triumph is empty—that we need all the brains and the faith and the contidence hat we can muster. It is in this phase that Tunnan can buttress an administration which has showed serious the care men with experience and capacity whe have never been called upon in our crists. President Truman has an opportunity to show the world that he means to meet his test as a man of courage and stature.

Truman has an opportunity to show the world that he means to meet his test as a man of courage and statut. The page of history is clean. In this scleam hour, few Americans will be inclined to stigmatiss Harry Truman for his political past. He is in the American tradition—the self-made man, the boy from the farmy from the self-made man, the boy from the farm, of the self-made man, the boy from the farm, of the self-made in the self-made man, the boy from the farm, of the world. The test is not his alone.

Because of the way in which for so long he dominated the American political scene, Fredionit Roses-vell's death leaves us with a sense of irreparable loss. Americans who ever lived. It is for all of us, all of us who are Americans, to meet the test of this hour,



"Can I borrow half a dollar, please? We're organizing another major league and all we need is a ball!"

He United Us

By Samuel Grafton

By Semue

NEW YORK

HE hald us together. The thing
the together if you were to tell
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spend a billion without worry. His
came
and his humor. It
was said to him that he could
spend a billion without
out taking
off their hats. But I
think he is we that the world was
in a had me, and that the billbut good sough for a year or
two. Yes
was perhaps an answer: not an answer for clearlity,
was prhaps an answer: not an answer for clearlity,
or two, yes a sufficient victory
in a decowhich had spawned
filler.

Leaf-raking was silly
year
cannot old me, and did not
cannot old me, he did not

stiller. Leaf-righting was silly You cannot sell me he did not know it was silly. He know. But as against the concentration camp. It was noble. As the concentration camp. It was noble. As pain, leaf-righting even had grandeur. It diluk he knowledge of them in his knowledge of them in his and balled. He was altocked and balled.

and balled.

Ne had no answers that were good for a hundred years. But in a six-month crists he always had alx-month answer. Maybe it was sometimes clumpy and awkward, but it weuld get us by the six

but it weld get us by the six
months.
When they would ask him what
he thought he had accomplished,
with the orrespondents, or shake
his haad, 3tu he knew what he
had accoss blabted he had got us
by the E months, at a time
when nie around the world were
flowed in the atreets of Berlin,
and Paris and they shelled the

workmen's houses in Yennas, work work the had ook think that a billion, was not so built, in maybe he knew what he had got for it, and that it was a beirgain, hot for the art of the had got for it, and that it was a beirgain, hot for the had got for it, and that it was a beirgain, hot for the had had got for the had had he had he had he had he had, he never moved so fast that our line pulled out thin and parted in the middle. There were some who thought that parted in the middle. There were some who thought that now American would separate and had had he had, that was when he proposed lend-issee. There were some who thought that now American would separate and had had been the manly had he had he had, that was when he proposed lend-issee. There were some who thought that now American would separate and he had had he had he

City Hall Today

By Dick Young



Miller we prodding my summy prodding my summy pole smarry
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with pole smarry
religion was a season.
Tholting a the
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Young

ad. "People today with plenty of
money have no idea what suffering
there was Just a Yev years back."

Fifteen firemen went to Memorial Hospital Sunday aftermoon to
help carry out the polic patients is
see the performance, arranged for
them by the Olyde Beatly Olreus.
One of the last group to go out
was a quarte of Regray volunteers,
bed. Six of the Iremen figured it
would be easier to lift up the oot
and carry out the four of them at
would be easier to lift up the oot
and carry out the four of them at
and the carrying back was in full
awing, the same firemen ploced up
to be of with the four polaciamises
four, a boy of sight er nine, grinfing from ear to sar, stepped down
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