SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1946

How Much Can We Afford?

THIS year North Carolina is spending 148,000,000 on education. That's about \$1,000,000 more than the State spent for all purposes in 1939, and it's enough to worry traditionally conservative Capitol Square, whose denizens are forerer talking about the return of "normal" times. They foresee that, if pre-war conditions ever do return, we'll be in a financial pickle to compare with that of the early thirties.

intrites.

But for all the swollen school budget, North Carolina's teachers are still underpaid. Despite the largest single increase ever given the schools, the teachers have just complaints. Thousands of them are not connent to shrill their wose. They have deserted the profession for more lucrative jobs outside. This time, education leaders; knew, there would have to be a unjied effort by all forces to persuade the Legislature to remedy the situation. And school people in North Carolina have never been united before. Legislators have listened to classroom teachers, PTA groups, each of the branches of the Education Association, and the Board of Education. They heard as many versions of school needs.

as many versions of school needs.

This year NCEA, PTA, the Board and all other educational groups in the state agreed to get together on their requests. Leaders tussed with the problem all Summer, and after a series of meetings they drew up a compromise request. They allowed the Raleigh Board to speak for them before the Advisory Budget Committee. All hands, including virtually all classroom teachers in the state, were thought to be committed to this request, and to support it. But the teachers, it now appears, strongly disagree with their leaders.

Yesterday's session of the South Pied-mont District of NCEA was stampeded by an overwhelming repudiation of the previ-ous request, which called for a 20 per cent ous request, which called for a 20 per cent raise in salaries, among other items. The teachers plumped for the high scale (be-ginning at \$1.560 with a \$3,500 maximum) proposed by our morning contemporary. The scale, in line with what the state would like to pay its teachers, would cost more than twice what the "official" re-quest calls for-somewhere upward of \$25,000,000, no one knows exactly how much

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Our pay scale for teachers is clearly too
low. Perhaps the 20 per cent increase
would not suffice to hold teachers in the
profession. It surely wouldn't guarantee
North Carolina that its schools would be
manned by the best possible teachers. But
it seems to almost everyone, except the
protesting teachers, that this is about all
the state can afford. This proposed raise,
Covernor Cherry estimates, will add \$135,
000,000 to the education bill, or a total of
\$51,000,000. Somewhere, as he says, we must
draw a line. North Carolina can move forward educationally no faster than she advances economically.

vances economically.

And Mr. Cherry and his key executives aren't the only ones who shy away from the schedule favored by the South Piedmont teachers. NCEA's President C. W. Phillips, who's always looked out for the interests of the profession, sees it more as a statement of an ideal than anything else. He'd like nothing better than to see the high scale put into effect. But he sees, too, that North Carolina can't afford it, and that the Legislature thus can't consider it.

Inflation Floods City Hall

and the real estate offlice, it's going to happen at City Hall sooner or later. If there seems to be no connection between the price of poultry and the cost of munici-pal government, you have only to reflect that we could buy fryers in '41 for 33 cents a pound, but must pay 79 cents a pound today—and whereas the list price on a '41 model safety inspector was \$2,700, the price is now \$6,000.

the price is now \$6,000.

In a moment of idle speculation we thumbed back through the City budgets just to check on the soaring costs of governing ourselves in Charlotte. In '41, last of the so-called normal years, we spent \$3,822.04. Thus the cost of municipal living at City Hall has risen almost 48 per cent, apparently about in line with inflation in other fields. We have waded into deeper water all down the line, and have added new departments and services freitrement fund, pet department, airport, municipal cemetery).

municipal cemetery).

The cost of 'general government' has almost quadrupled in the five years. Finance and accounting costs have almost doubled. Health and welfare costs have more than doubled. Public service and public safety have almost doubled. Police costs, for example, have jumped from \$211,000 a year to \$837,000. Street mintenance is up from \$83,000 to \$167,000. Some of the ingrease came recently in the 15 per cent rafte for City employees, but that amounted to

IF it happens in the meat market and the grocery shop and the haberdasher's and the real estate office, it's going to happen at City Hall sconer or later. If

'41		'46
\$7,200	City Manager	\$15,000
3,600	Treasurer	6.000
3.000	Accountant	6,000
3,600	Revenue Collector	6.000
3,900	Health Officer	7.596
3.300	Police Chief	5.760
3,300	Fire Chief	5.750
3.000	City Judge	5.172
2,400	Solicitor	4.140
2,400	Purchasing Agent	4.284
1,680	City Clerk	3.252
1,650	Garage Supt.	3,456
1,650	Sanitary Supt.	4.140
3,300	City Engineer	6,000
3,000	Asst. Engineer	6,000
2,700	Safety Inspector	6.000
3,900	Water Supt.	6.000
3.000	Asst. Water Supt.	5,520
\$56,580	Total	\$107.080
	and the second	

\$36,360 Total 107,000
These officials, of course, are cesting the City less than \$30,000 in additional salaries, but their 89 pero in increase is fairly typical of what have the fairly typical of what have the constraint of the communities of comparable size, and there are still services to be improved and expanded. The tax rate stands at \$11.50, with collections anticipated at \$20 per cent (a record high); it will surely hit \$2.00 when the approved bond issues go on the books and begin to bear down on the taxpayer. We don't know quite what to make of it, except that the days of cheap government in Charlotte are over.

Another Voice

We're Back Where We Started

REVERSAL of the temporary ruling by Attorney General Harry McMullan's office that the Southern States Fair at rlotte was not an agricultural fair and that therefore the circus showing while that fair was in progress did not have to pay the extra tax penalty for exhibiting is conflict therewith serves to stress all the more the need for setting up tests and andards for fairs in North Carolina so as assure proper protection for the clitzerry the state and the public treasury.

of the state and the public treasury.

While Subsection (E) of Section 106 of the Revenue Act bars a carnival, which in our own non-legal opinion a decent in our own non-legal opinion a decent in the state of the

hat these "fairs" fall in any such category.

Attorney General McMulian admits that here is no definition of an agricultural art in the Beruse of an arricultural art in the Beruse of an articultural art in the Beruse of an articultural art in the General Control of the Articular which throws any see in Mornta seem "unable to find succeed, bowever, or digging up an Ohio case, tried back in 81, and applied the definition given in 82, and applied the definition given fairs came nearer being fairs a the dictionary sense and had not demarked into their present state, to the basiciote situation. The complete lack of my test or standard and victimization of a revenue, department and the people a revenue, department and the people of any "fair" which wishes to take admits of the blanket protection are generalized by the official finding that "Any

agricultural fair' must include all agricul-tural fairs or none, for there is nothing in the statute by which any distinction can be made between such fairs."

can be made between such fairs."

But again we ask, what is an "agricultural fair" and how come all this circumfocution to protect the fairs' interests rather than the public's? A General Assembly which can write a Revenue Act certainly ought to know what it is exempting and according a protection which may be wholly undeserved. The real agricultural fairs in North Carolina ought to be more interested in clearing up this matter than any-body else as it affects their good name and their public support accordingly—Greensboro Daily Neues.

Chuck De Gaulle says he would do as the Americans have done: "Frame a constitution that assures a strong Presi-dent." Who—us?

Judges of entertainment values tell us this Von Papen would have been good for 52 weeks in old-time vaudeville. All the late Houdini wriggled out of was knots and

Some day an honest prof will say to the undergrads assembled, "The subject is economics, which I will teach on a your-guess-is-as-good-as-mine basis."

"Most girls," says a psychologist, "feel inferior about something." This goes on until they marry, and get the upper hand over a guy.

Motto, for the wall of a Nuernberg lock-up: "Influence is what you have until you need it."



'Can't Read This Next Line?'

Add: The Good Old Days

W Hoover as compared with 1996 under unas terms "New Deal";
"Child", your "mother" told you only a part of the truth pesterday; but by no means all of il! linds, it is true, child; that there was meat of all linds, in mounds of delicious yellow butter which is so retion mounds of delicious yellow butter which is so retood on hot biscuits with plenty of jelly to spread on for

on hot biscuits with plenty of jelly to spread on for good measure.

The said truth is, child, that unless you have money you can't buy meat or butter or saything else days, only a few people had enough money to buy all those good foods; not to mention clothes, rent, doctors' and dentists' bills, or fuel to keep from the control of th

Old Days" and maybe that mother of yours wann; the state of you consulting else, my child! There were thousands of men who had fought in that other great world War who were hungry and ragged and cold. They marched to Washington—back in those Good Chey marched to Washington—back in those Good Chey marched to Washington, and some of them were chased out of Washington, and some of them were created out of Washington, and some of them were created out of Washington, and some of them were created to the washington, and some of them were created to the washington, and some of them were created to the washington, and some of their were created to the washington, and some of their were created to the washington of the washington o

Editors, THE NEWS:

Limited Justice

CHARLOTTE

JUSTICE JACKBON would limit justice to punishment for German industrialists, diplomanta politicians, and others whose guilt does not differ from that of the eleven high Nazis given death sentence.

Of the tustion victoria are easier to make the most of their lives. They are more serious than the off course Justice Jackson deserves three cheers.

But such justice puts this ration in a bad light: it excuses the guilty in the United States! And the most guilty in the United States! And the most guilty in the United States! And the most guilty in the United States! who adored littler's blueprint for a Nazi regime in Russia, are the war-

Report On Monopoly DALLAS, TEXAS

Report On Monopoly

Billiors, Tux News:

COL. Co. R. Marcon, secretary of the Southers

and the secretary of the Southers

and the secretary of the Southers

and timely editorial. Margarine taxes are unjust at any

there has been such a shortage of 14th, they are

beyond comprehension. I belong to a number of women's clubs that have

selected resolutions condemning margarine taxes, and

all the secretary of the secretary o

-MRS. A. G. HUNTER.

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications possible, and on only one of the prostible, and on only one possible, and on only one build be deleted—otherwise anything ones. Each letter must be signed, although, in exceptional cases and mount of the prosting of

Marquis Childs

Grand Old Legend

The he is more than a myth, as both his friends and enemies have discovered from time to time. Just well as the second of the se

Samuel Grafton

Bi-Partisan Rule

OUR foreign policy has been bipartiasa for more than a year;
now partiasa for more than a year;
now find bi-partian also. When Mr. Trush
man muttered into the radio that
man muttered into the radio that
methods. OUR foreign polley have worth the partians for more than a year; now our domestic polley is become the polley of the partians for the partial polley in th

of holy war of extermination as the control of the

Drew Pearson's: Wallace Not Pleased With His Successor Merry-Go-Round:

Harriman was the man picked to replace him as Secretary of Commerce. —!" exclaimed the ex-Secretary of Commerce. "Iffe the one who torpedoed the San Francisco Commerce. "He is the one who torpedoed the San Francisco Commerce. And they want a Secretary of Commerce who will keep his nose out of foreign affairs!"

Note !—Wallace was referring to Harriman's secret press Associated to the Russians, did not lead to Russon-American harmony.

Note 2—Just a few weeks after Wallace was ousted for some charmonic-lader statement collect, his discovery of the commerce of the comme

parties at his ormate mantion where sweet words were whispered on behalf of the big utilities. Finally, Smith's lobbying nest was exposed, and he slipped quietly out of the limelight.

But not for iong. He cann bacher game of lobbying. This was allowed to the limelight. The state of lobbying. This time it was called the National Conference of Investors, under whose aegis he formed a preferred stockholders on the New Haven Railroad, then in bankrupter, limever, a recommendation of the New Haven Railroad, then in bankrupter, limever, a recommendation of the New Haven Conference of the New Haven Railroad, then in bankrupter, limever, a recommendation of the New Haven Railroad, then in bankrupter, limever, a recommendation of the committee was the conference of the new Haven Railroad (In 1942, "that the dominant motive underlying the formation of this committee was the Charles of the Conference of the C

Truman Vetoes Smith

Only a handful of Congressmen had ever taken time to figure out what the bill's intricate language meant.

So now Mr. Smith is back to wreak vengeance on Mr. Truman. He has a new game, and a new, very high-sounding name—the Life Insurance Policyholders Protective Association. He is raising \$183,00. Purpose: To defeat pro-Truman ance policities. Consequence he is afried they may undermine insurance policities.

Pinny how loboyists, ucepute hange.
Note—Worse underminer of insurance policies may be runaway inflation now feated as a result of runaway price controls. It was Mr. Smith's pais in Congress who started that ball rolling.

Merry-Go-Round

JOHN L. LEWIS has been much sicker than his family
Jadmitted. A crisis followed his operation for appendicular. All the nurses, doctors and hospital aides taking
not a bit as they had expected. . . Some people reliable reports that they're in the big money, but not Henry Wallace. A report that he was to get 175.000 from The New Republica for the state of the state