# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

# Contamination By The Atom Bomb

ONE of our secret operatives in Washington, a veteran reporter, sends word that "war talk really is on every lip here, as I guess everywhere." In the next sentence he casually offers a rather complete explanation of this phenomenon, writing that "no one knows who has the ball or where the goal is. You can quote me on that."

nat."
It is always thus. When politicians are no rattled or too stupid to find a peaceful plution, they call on the military to save hem.

solution, they call on the inilitary to save them.

However, the significant point in this dispatch is not the comment on the Washington jitters but the suggestion that it is the same "everywhere."

Dr. Brock Chisholm, executive secretary of the Interin Commission of 'UN's World Health Organization, commented this week on the surge of war fear in this country and added the pertinent comment that the Americans are about the only people in the world who are actually worried about the outbreak of hostilities as a result of the present crisis. The Europeans, he said, are too exhausted and too occupied with the immediate task of inding something to est to become beligreent.

mediate task of finding something to eat become beligerent. Why is America so fearful, and so belli-rerent? The answer to both parts of the sestion, we believe, will be found in the combomb. Russia's propaganda offension bomb. Russia's propaganda offension but the country but

he Atom Bomb

It has aroused belligerency rather than fear of a military attack from Russia. Americans seem completely confident that the Soviet Union will never risk such a step so long as we have exclusive possession of the bomb. If we thought otherwise there would be a strong popular demand for more defense measures.

Americans no longer are alarmed over the possibility that Russia may get the bomb will be a strong popular demand for more defense measures.

Americans no longer are alarmed over the possibility that Russia may get the value of the strong was a strong to the strong with the same and the strong was a strong to the strong was a strong with the same and the strong was a strong with the same and th

#### An Echo From The Dark Ages

HUGH WILSON, warden of Ralledis when pickpockets were publicly hanged—
state Prison, wants to take us far back 
into the history of man and crime with 
his proposal that North Carolina.stage public executions—in the counties where 
serimes are committed. Discussion of his 
suggestion has been mild and casual, and 
we expect no movement to change the 
present system of putting,men to death in 
Raleigh's small, private gas chamber. But 
his proposition is important: he sees that 
capital punishment is a failure in North 
Carolina, as elsewhere.

A more important suggestion of his way.

The seeds of crime in the state are not 
have been suggested to the state are not 
have been suggested to the suggestion of the line 
state of the control of the 
men of the suggestion of the 
state to the foots of other 
has so in North Carolina for generations, before the State took over the bloody 
task and moved the scene to Raleigh. 
The seeds of crime in the state are not 
have been suggested to the state are 
have been suggested to the state 
have been suggested to the suggested 
have been suggested 
has been suggested 
have been suggested 
have

Carolina, as elsewhere.

A more important suggestion of his was that the State abandon capital punishment allogether, since it serves no useful purpose. But, realizing that he could find little support for that reform, he insists that if we're to execute at all, we should do the grisly job before the public, back home where the lesson would sink in. History foliuse his implication that it would sink refuse his implication that it would sink out to be a deferred to crime in any way.

Britain found that out while the Empire was in its swaddling clothes. One of the great English holidays in old times fell

there to reap their golden harvest. Public hanging was something less than successful.

It was so in North Carolina for generations, before the State took over the bloody task and moved the scene to Raleigh.

The seeds of crime in the state are not to be found in the method of execution, but in the moral, social and economic failures of our time. We cannot hope to improve the record by working from the eallows end, or moving the gas chamber. Our task lies in the schools and churches, and in the everyday economic life of the state which produces great areas of poverty-whence crime inevitably springs.

If North Carolina is deaf to Warfen, Wilson's condemnation of capital punishment, it cannot conscionably heed his procosal to bring back the gory spectacle of the public execution.

# Leaving It To Old George

WE aren't sure that Americans are going to make good peacetime volunteers—to feed Europe or halt inflation or
anything else. The President's call for fationing through self-control at the table
len't likely to become a whooping success
afters aren't cheering.
Three was obvious reluctance on the part
of distillers to give up grain even temporarily. There has been grumbling from all
sides. It appears that, though food producers have blandly explained that there
is little profit to be made under present
conditions, no one wants to be separated
from his customers, even for one day a
week. The poultry industry was the latest
to cry that chickenless and eggless days
threatened ruin.

to cry that chickeness and eggless days threatened ruin.

A local restaurateur tells us that the first meatless day, though observed in most Charlotte eating places, was something less than a trimph. When speeple round to meet on the menu they flocked to market and gave them the biggest days business in many a soons. Some restaurant men feeling like such view of the menu here graduard the public order if it wanted to—and refrain

ff it was feeling more patriotic than hungry.

It's apparently too much to ask a nation which produced a new world of blackmarketing, and has long tolerated bootleggers in endiess variety, to toe the mark and cut down on its foodsfor a cause. This reaction is close akin to those brought forth in the hilarious comedy of high-price investigations, when producer, wholesare, jobber, retailer and all sang in chorus, "Not guilty." In the end, it was concluded that the whole mess of inflation must have been stirred up by that insidious character, the consumer—and so he was advised that the only way out of his dilemma was to quit eating.

The food conservation program, suggest—

sating.

The food conservation program, suggested to a wealthy, well-red people, its more than that. In the background are not only nations of suffering people; there is also the threat of war we were supposed to have learned to recognize a generation ago. Perhaps, now that housewives are beginning to learn, that the much-abused OPA was not so bad after all, we are ready for the decision that voluntary action is not enough to conserve food, and that sterner methods are called for.

#### From The Greensboro Daily News Need For The Guard

If is meet and proper that military af-first, relating especially to the pro-gram of the Southern Governors' Conter-ence when it assembles at Asheville next

Thus there remains abliding need for the

k. The the guard has a vital national sig-cance and import, in that it always has in considered the nation's second line of ense, a reserve from which the regular y draw quickly in event of emergency, organization as such functions through under the states. It is frich in tradi-and rich in achievement, dating begk the minute men and the early citizen-liers who came to defense of their rights their homeland. In every intervening it has made an honorable and effec-record.

The treatment of the state of t

There may be certain instances, moreover, where it will not suffice for emergency duty. 4.

Thus there remains abiding need for the
National Guard on both the national level,
where the vital issue of security and the
dangers of the iransition period through
which we are passing are involved, and the
state level where a void exists so long as
there are no adequately manned military
units to take over in event worst comes to
worst. Despite strong appeals, reorganization of the National Guard is proceeding
unsatisfactorily. 'If the Southern governors
and national spokesmen in John conference can give impetus where impetus is
needed and get the guard built up to what
is regarded as the necessary strength, they
will make a distinct contribution to protection at home and security abroad. The
guard needs manpower and nobody should
have to be told why.

Man's helplessness in the grip of inexorable destiny is the essence of classic Greek tragedy. Also of the modern, for that matter.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

'Now, Is Everything Perfectly Obscure?'



#### People's Platform

### One Family That Eats Less

Editors, THE News: IN reference to the ban of poultry on Thursdays and meat on Tuesdays by President Truman's Food

Committee.

My family includes my wife and ope child. We already have more or less rationed ourselves on poultry, eggs, and beef, not to save food, but to get by on my salary which averages \$280 a month. I don't live as the contract of th

#### Gulliver's 'Secret'

Gulliver's "Secret

Editors. The News.

EDENTLY in re-reading "Gulliver's Travels" (first Recently in re-reading "Gulliver's Travels" (first Recently in re-reading "Gulliver's Travels" (first Recently in return for so many marks that I had received in return for so many marks that I had received in his royal favor and protection"—of a powder that "would not only destrow whole ranks of an army at "would not only destrow whole ranks of an army at "would not only destrow whole ranks of an army at "would not only destrow whole ranks of an army at "would not only destrow whole ranks of an army at "would not only destrow the bottom of the sea. ... would tear the houses to pieces, burst and throw splinters on every side, dashing out the brains of all who came near" and "destroy the burst of the protection of the sea. ... would tear the houses to pieces, burst and throw splinters on every side, dashing out the brains of all who came near" and "destroy the burst of the protection of the protectio

## CHARLOTTE Restoration Project

Restoration Project

Restoration Project

Actions, The News:

The final phase of the \$27,000,000 Restoration Fund

Teampaign is being launched this month in Presbyterain churches throughout the nation.

The Restoration Fund is undoubtedly the greatfinal project of the project of the succession o

and \$5.128.445 for war-inspired work in the United States. Sta

#### Onote, Unquote

An exchange asks. What made the a grat-nation? In tenty we will say the Brookin Dodgen. the Empire State Buildine, Carmen Miranda, contred moving pictures, peanuts. The Truman Doctrine, rural electrification, autick-freeze, antick-arch support-ers, normanest waves and a lot of other things we can't think of right now—Lexington Herald. The consensus among the critics with regard to Margaret Turna's voice seems to be that she is a nice girl and kind to her folks.—Roanoke (Va.) Times.

# It Isn't Loyalty

Samuel Grafton

#### Stewart Alsop

# Danger In De Gaulle

THERE In Paris, the chesture true true the company of the company

# Pre w Peorson's : Call For 'Friendship Train' Of U. S. Merry-Go-Round : Call For 'Friendship Train' Of U. S.

(Editor's Note—Drew Pearson's column today takes the form of a letter to Charles Luckman, chairman of the Citizens Food Committee).

| HESITATE to butt into your business, but since yours is a citizens food committee, I, as a citizen, take the liberty of making a suggestion regarding your tough job of getting food to Europe.

of making a suggestion regarding your longing joo on accom-food to Europe.

It reams to me the hardest job we face is making sure this food is genuinely appreciated by the people of Europe as a friendly sacrifice from the people of the United States.

Last year, when we sent food to Europe several million to the control of the control of the control of the control of the Havre foots—all accepted by most Freichmen as a matter

measure Of Friendship
FINALLY, that Russian wheat ca
Government—not from the Ri
than a handful of Russian people

of one year ago. They want history to repeat. And if we are not very careful it will.

Citizan Food Committee is that this time we take steep to see that the people of Europe evaluate this camosign for exactly what it is—a genuine sacrifice from the heart of America.

sacrifice from the heart of America.

From Heart Of America

To that end I make the further susception that we arrange
for the collection of this food direct from the heart of
America in such a way that it can be visualized and dramatured and that it eral stay will be told to the millions of
why not framatise the store of America's sacrifice by
running a "Peinochion Train's attainity across the United
as it sope, itemptine the housewives and formers of the nation
to source a been of four or a bushed of wheat and bring it
down to the Friendship Train as their contribution toward
refreships with the people of Banaco's

Banaco's Banaco's Wayber Swide

mda.

Now. Mrs. John Murdock, wife of the conscientious Common from Arizona hopes to rescue the lonely to ked grave of the Italian artist and give him provided to the constitution of the common from the com