## Veto Power On The Home Front

THE Mecklenburg County Delegation, in its infinite wisdom, has rejected requests from the City Council for legislation allowing the City to:

(1) Lower the minimum age of firemen from 21 to 18 years.

(2) Permit City employees, for the duration of the housing shortage, to live outside the City limits.

(3) Regulate the keeping of fowls and bees by City residents under the section of the Charter which now permits the regulation of all other furred, feathered or finny creatures.

uisilion of all other furred, feathered or finny creatures.

(4) Pave through streets without public petition and without special assessment against adjoining property-owners. With the possible exception of number four, none of these matters are of any concern to any citizen outside of the City of Charlotte. They do not involve the expenditure of State or County any policy of Charlotte. They do not involve the expenditure of State or County any policy of the county of the c

years old?

This would be absurd even if it were merely a routine legal requirement. It's a great deal more than that. Under the present system the five members of the Meck-

Home Front

lenburg County Delegation serve as a sort of miniature lexistature in their own right, where the solution is a sort of miniature lexistature in their own right, when they decide among themselves that they will not introduce legislation requested by the City the matter is closed. When they decide among that the will not introduce legislation requested by the City the matter is closed. When they agree to introduce legislation on the City's behalf their decision, except in rare instances, is tantamount to approval by the Legislature as whole.

Did anybody in Mecklenburg realize when he voted for Meszs. Biythe. Tonnisen, Sims. Vogler and Morris that he was empowering them to decide how old Charlotte may keep bees, and whether the City shall pave its own streets? We think not And, of course. Council, not the Decide Station, will get the blame if a city the station, will get the blame if a city of the proper of responsibility. The Council, charged with the operation of the City Government and answerable to the people of Charlotte, is denied authority commensurate with that responsibility. And, conversely, the County Delegation, charged with no direct responsibility for nimicipal affairs, is endowed with authority superior to Council's in routine matters of administration.

sibility for miunicipal affairs, is endowed with authority superior to Council's in routine matters of administration. Obviously, such a system violates basic principles of good government. If the County Delegation is to function as a sort of upper house with veto power over the City Council the voters of Charlotte should certainly understand it when they go to the poils to express their opinion of the sort of Government they've been getting.

## Notes On State Board 22

Now before the Legislature, a bill which Now before the Legislature, a bill which seems to have some chance of passing would establish State Board Number 22. This agency would have broad powers to regulate the undertaking business in North Carolina, and was introduced at the request of the undertakers themselves. Although its membership would theoretically be appointed by the Governor to selegal requirement, written in in committee numbership would be understanded by the Governor to selegal requirement, written in in committee numbership. afterthought) its members would be under-takers recommended by the undertakers

association. Well, for all we know, the undertaking business may need some self-regulation. But this bill would not stop with, say, the licensing of embalmers who have met certain minimum standards of training and experience. It would license undertaking establishments in toto. A man who wanted to go into the business would have to have the board's blessing' of the law would forbid him to open his doors.

What it means, in short, is that the un-dertakers now in business would, through their duly appointed representatives. De empowered to decide when and where an-other undertaker can set up shop. The ef-fect, naturally, would be to keep down competition, or, in other words, to guaran-

tee to those establishments now operating a continuing monopoly that could be brok-en only with their permission. It is clear that the undertakers, in re-

en only with their permission. It is clear that the undertakers, in requesting this legislation, have abandoned the principles of free enterprise. This may be proper enough, for the State has grant-demonopolies in other fields, using its power to guarantee various enterprises against competition. But it is customary in these cases (or it should be) to take such action only in the public interest and fo attach certain conditions thereto. In conterring a monopoly upon the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, the Southern Raliroad, or the Duke Power Company, for instance, the State reserves the right to fix the rates charged for their services. And, of course, it does not allow these companies to appoint the boards that fix the rates and set minimum standards of service.

the rates and set minimum standards of service.

The Legislature, it seems to us, is now considering a bill designed to further the undertakers interests at the expense of the publics. That, certainly, is improper. The only choice, it seems to us, is between em-powering a board made up of non-under-takers to fix maximum rates for funerals, or abandoning the whole project. We would recommend the latter.

#### Prohibition Via The Back Door

THIS seems to be our day for long-winded discussion of principles of government, so we might as well take up Senator Penny's state-wide liquor referendum. This item, introduced in the Legislature this week, is given slight chance of passage by Raleigh observers. But it does provide a perfect illustration of what Lynn Nisbet has called 'the back-door approach to prohibition."

Nisbet has called "the back-door approach to prohibition."

The Penny bill is as loaded in favor of the prohibitionists as it possibly could be. For one thing it would affect only the sale of hard liquor and wine; no mention at all is made of beer. This, we suppose, was done because beer is an important source of local revenue in every county in the state, ABC or not, and some local opposition on fiscal grounds is avoided by more than the proposition of the proposi

most remarkable aspect of the Penny bill is that it is phrased so that the Penny bill is that it is phrased so that the voters of North Carolina can vote only for prohibition. If 99 per cent of the votes cast in the referendum were against, problittion, prohibition would still continue in all those counties which do not now have ABC stores under local option. But if 50.1 per cent of the total vote were in favor of prohibition all the present ABC counties

would be declared legally dry and the sale of wine would be outlawed everywhere in the state.

There are many other dubious aspects of the bill, but this alone is sufficient, we think, to demonstrate that it does not rep-

think, to demonstrate that it does not represent an honest effort to ascertain the will of the people of North Carolina. The measure will have the support, we suppose, of some zealots, but we are pleased to note that a good many thoughtful dry leaders have been notably silent concerning it.

We would, as we have said before, support a competent statewide referendum on ABC stores, one that dealt fully with the various questions involved and provided for the replacement of revenue loss by outlawing the sale of liquor. But the Penny bill certainly doesn't meet any of these conditions. It doesn't, in fact, meet the most elemental conditions or frepresentative governments. elemental conditions of representative gov

ernment. We respect the sincerity of those who be-lieve that liquor is such a monumental curse it must be fought with any-weapon that comes to hand. But it seems pertinent to remind them that there are other things even more dangerous than strong drink. The perversion of the democratic process is one of them.

#### Another Voice

## A Fertile Field For Gobbledygook

supposed to understand.

It followed a meeting between C.I.O. representatives and the Big Four Rubber companies, wherein negotiations broke down and the company representatives walked out in a huff. Upon such occasions in the out in a huff. Upon such occasions in the past it has been customary to send the word down the line for the boys to get ready for trouble. Now the union leaders send out a neatly mineographed statement teiling the word that "local unions have been instructed to prepare in such a manner as to place themselves in a stronger bargaining position."

Imagine the confusion in the front office. What does it mean? Will the men strike?

WITH a wistful sigh-for lusty days gone by we note the passing of labor from its overalls and into a cutaway. This development appears in a union statement that is diplomatic double talk, of the finest quality, a communique which nobody is supposed to understand.

It followed a meeting between C.I.O. representatives and the Big Four Rubber companies, wherein negotiations broke down and the company representatives walked out in a half I from such occasions in the

The one now operating is the Fourth French Republic, according to sidewalk scorekeepers who counted the others as they were thrown out.

Had the Mt. Clemens Pottery but fore-seen the avalanche of free ads, learned counsel could have been instructed to work in a description of the product.



Football

## People's Platform

## The Matter Of Health

Actions. The News:

DESTRE to commend your splendid presentation of "Better Health for North Carolinais" in your special issue.

I know of no subject so vital to the needs and future welfare of the present and future citizens of the State than the member of the local Selective Service Board for one and a half years in World War I and as chief clerk for five years in World War II, and personally bandled the records of between six and sevent fusual tailing way, that North Carolina will never leven with the fullest developed program outlined be able to provide adequate care on a remedial program basis. It must be in the program basis of the second program of the program basis in must be in the program basis of the second program citizens to the provide adequate care on a remedial program to the provide adequate care on a remedial program to the provide program citizens to the provide adequate care on a remedial program to the provided program of the program of the provided program of the program of the program to the provided additional program of the provided program of the program of the provided program of the pro

all delinquents, crime, etc.

All travel daily over the eleven counties under
All travel daily over the eleven counties under
convincing.

If the financial structure of the state is going
to make the revenue on the sale of whisky, wine and
the financial structure of the state is going
to make the revenue on the sale of whisky, wine and
the repid increase of crime as a result of the industry from which the revenue is derived, it will not
be many years until it may and probably will be a
financial burden, day greater than the present,
the many years until it may and probably will be a
financial burden, day greater than the present,
the many years until it may and probably of crime
originating from drink.

Last year our crime bill for the nation was between lifteen and twenty billions of dollars
were lifteen and twenty billions of dollars
were lifteen and twenty billions of dollars
move indicated, shed in many counties observed, and
this same thing should apply to the nation, it will
same thing should apply to the nation, it will
antion to control and finance its crime problem.

Much of the nation's labor difficulties find their
crimin in the minds of men who stand for a type
of liberty and democracy that it implied or all
the same thing should be all the single of the cocoming, so numerous through the state and ration,
the control of this class or type of citizen now becoming, so numerous through the state and ration,
the state of this class or type of citizen now becoming, so numerous through the state and ration,
the state of the class or type of citizen now becoming, so numerous through the state and ration,
the state of the class or type of citizen now betwent suggests that the church or Sunday school are
the parents of this class or type of citizen now becoming, so numerous through the state and ration,
the state of the class of type of citizen now becoming, so numerous through the state and ration,
the state of the class of type of citizen now becoming, so numerous through the state and

VALDESE sib. "Better Health For North Carolinians" and found it very interesting. I am the business manager of a small hospital three miles from Valdese, and so am very much in-

terested in the good health program. We serve what might be termed a rural community. Even though we are small, having only 40 beds, we serve around 2000 monthly 4m our out-patient. Phartment. We have a complete laboratory. X-ray equipment, operating rooms and all the necessary equipment, operating rooms and all the necessary equipment to give best of service to the popule with have offices in the hospital, so at all times we are ready, to assist in any emergency that might come about.

—W. N. BANKS, Business Mg., Valdes Gotteral Hospital.

Thank you for the special edition of The News. We are glad to have it for our tile on HEALTH.

—GRACE PATRICK, Librarian.

Worth Elliott, Carnegie Library.

ASHEVILLE
Congratulations on your splendid Better Health

-BARBARA FRICK.
The Norburn Hospital, Inc.,

Please accept our thanks for he publication,
"Better Health For North Carolinianan he publication,
"Better Health For North Carolinianan hitchell College Library.

Amen

Editors, The News.

A HEARTY amen to your editorial on academic freedom.

—JOHN CALDWELL.

-JOHN CALDWELL.

Thanks For Herman

CHARLOTTE Editors. The News:

MANY readers of The News have waited anxiously for the counts in Georgia to make their decision as to who is going to be that state's governor. Well, thanks to the courts for Talimadge; he is the man of the hour. Pify we haven't got some like him in North Carolina pow. We need him in Washington to help keep the South where it is today.

How many readers of The News have seen the peture, "Birth Of a Nation"? If you haven't seen this peture, then it will be wise to buy the book and read it.

-L. L. CHILDRESS.

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be less than 300 words, spowritten if possible, and on only one side of the paper. Libel and obscently will be deleted—otherwise anything goes. Each letter must be signed, although, in exceptional cases and upon request, we will withhold the writer's name.—Editors, THE NEWS.

## Lilienthal, A Symbol

WHILE the question of the confirmation of David Lilential
is important as an issue of immediate policy, it is even more important as a symbol. So much of
the confusion and conflict of our
time and ways.
On the political side, it puts an
important segment of the Republican leadership in the strange
of the publicant leadership in the
publicant leadership in the strange
of the publicant leadership in the
the strange
of the public symbol and the strange
of the strange
of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange
of the strange
of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the strange of the strange of the strange
of the strange of the st

Marquis Childs

sindictive Sen. Kenneth McKellar, Sen. Kenneth Wherry would have it otherwise, but the facts apeck for it was made to the work of the work

reinthal.

They concluded, in effect, that this power was so overwhelming it could not be left to the exploitation of private interests. Private competition would inevitably mean private monopoly. And a monopoly of that kind would finally be a dictatorship.

that sim would make to a state that ship.

Under the plan they proposed, atomic power would be available to private business just as TVA power is available at a low cost to private business throughout the Tennessee Valley I. was TVA power which made possible the ex-

pandon of the private aluminum, rodustry and the production of more airplanes by private firms than the world had ever dreamed possible.

The private of the production of more airplanes by private firms than the world had ever dreamed possible.

The private of the private that run to the san. In the sane way, atomic power derives from the very stuff of the sane of the san. In the sane way, atomic power derives from the very stuff of the sane of t

## Samuel Grafton

## Life In Squirrel Cage

The squirrel coge routine is normal in the dislocated lite of Western Europe.

In the dislocated lite of Western Europe.

The Tornes of England sometimes point to Frage, where considerable freedom Runnins, as an example of a bellug from the considerable freedom Runnins, as a cannot be considerable freedom Runnins, as a cannot be considerable freedom Runnins, as an example of a bellug free considerable freedom Runnins, as an example of a bellug free considerable freedom Runnins, as an example free considerable freedom Running freedom have been considerable freedom free

THERE is a squirrel case quality for the same and the squirrel case effect of the same there are build and the fill start all same and the squirrel case effect as the same the same that the squirrel case effect as the squirrel case in order to the squirrel case routine is nor an effect of the squirrel case routine is nor an effect of the squirrel case routine is nor the squirrel case record in the squirrel case effect as a linear close of stuffed to such as a linear close stuffed to squirrel case effect as a linear close of stuffed to squirrel case effect as a linear close of stuffed to squirrel case effect as a linear close of stuffed to squirrel case effect as a linear close of stuffed to squirrel case effect as a linear close of stuffed to squirrel case effect as a linear close of stuffed to squirrel case effect as a linear close of stuffed to squirrel case effect and seems that the squirrel case effect as a linear close of squirrel case effect as a squirrel case effect as squirrel case effect as a squirrel case effect as a squirrel case effect as a squirrel

# Drew Pearson's : Communist Leaders Fleeing From America Merry-Go-Round

A GROUP of Communist leaders in the United States. A headed by William Z. Foster, the partys secretary general are felenga the condry just ahead of a sweeping Justice Department-Congressional probe of the Soviet political network.

Here are the developments thus far:

1. Foster sailed ten days ago on a passport vissed for every country from France to Russia.

2. Morris Childs, former bedd of the Community Party in the Community publication, The Daily Worker, has secured a passport for a smular trip.

tion. The Daily Worker, has secured the state of the stat

surreillance, checking reports that they are "message drops."
or Soviet agents.
4. The Justice Department is prepared to support a.
Congressional drive to outlaw the Communist Party inthe United States. Lists of key Communist officials have
already been drawn up by the FBI for possible appre-

the United States. Lists of key communas orisonas invalinearly been drawn up by the FBI for possible apprehension. A group of onetime Comintern agents, many of whom worked actively with the anti-hast underground in Germany, have left for Mexico City after a premature tip-off that they were wanted for questioning by the-House Communication of the Communication of t

HE manages to keep completely out of the limelight, but
H the smoothest lobbytes in Washington these days
is George Johnson, head of the Central Nebrassa Public
Power District and the Farm Grops Processing Corporation of Ornaha.

Johnson has just succeeded in doing what is sup-

speed to be simped impossible—he got a private banking som siven tirst priority over a Government loan. In other words, shough the Government loan was a first mortgage, it will be paid off as a second mortgage. George Johnson is also be benefitting only one after the control of the second price of the properties. This is the company in which Senator Rush Butler's old partner holds stock, and rends and partner. It is the company in which Senator Rush Butler's old partner holds stock, and rends and partner. It is the company in which Senator Rush Butler's old partner holds stock, and rends and partner. Public works are the controlled Congress.

Afthough buty as an alrohol distiller, Johnson also had time to put across a unique de lens of over \$43,000.000 and the public works and the projects—the Loup, Central Nebraraka and Platte Valley Districts.

### Wall Street Comes First

Wall Street Comes First

AND despits these prior liena, Johnson was so persuasive
that he induced PWA counsel Allen Johnstone to
waive these liena in favor-of the Wall Street firm of B. J.
Van Ingen which is putting up \$10,000,000 to Been will
steam plant. Thus the bonds
steam plant. Thus the bonds
for the plant of the plant of the PWA
for the previously had first lien, will come second.
George has been lobbying on this ever aimer list May,
but he has never lied to the previously had first lien, will come second.
George has been lobbying on this ever aimer list May,
but he has never lied to the transaction is that it was
not submitted to or 'approved by Comprisible General
Lindsay Warren. Under the law, as interconference of
Covernment attendance to the United States.

However, this is not the only accompliation of Nebraskays skillful George dot the art of another bill in
the last session of Congress reducing the interest on publie wegis bonds from 4 to 2 1-2 per cent. This reduction is not unfair, but it was obtenderses could not vote
on the real issue;

Thus, Nebraska not only got her interest reduced on Government loans, but has put those loans second to more recent. Wall Street loans—all thats to the fast-talking, smooth-loboying George domains.

Strange Senate Bedfellows

TO Capital insiders who have watched the never-ending To Capital insiders who have watched the never-ending to battles over public power, there's a very familiar strain to the current whoop-and-holler over the confirmation of TVA Chairman David Lilienthal as chief of the Atomic Energy Commission.

TVA Chairmen David Lilenthal as chief of the Atomic Energy Commission.

The battle sagainst TVA lited! when private mouther of the tight square trya lited the pattern of the tight square trya lited the private mouther of the tight square trya lited the private mouther the tight square trya lited the private mouther the tight square to the tight

to 1938-40. the story repeats itself like a cracked phonograph record.

Bridges set himself up as a sor-man grand interference of the property of the property

accused Bridges in 1940 of trying to "throw dirt on the TVA."

Now they are battling arm and arm together. Very strange bedfellows!