TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 1947

### Post Mortem On The Legislature

TWE record of accomplishment of the 1947 General Assembly is not unimpressive. Quite a few superartives are indicated on the credit side—the biggest budget, the most ambitious program of construction, the first state legislative body to a broad post-war health pro-

sythoties a Proad post-war nearm program.

The Assembly performed its major task competently. It divided available funds, instituting that large and troublesome surplus, with vision, if not inspiration. It met major needs as well as it could within the limits of present tax schedules. Its members worked hard and long at their difficult task and distinguished themselves for devotion to duty by adjourning as quickly "at they did.

devotion to dust or suponimas as they did.

But there are also quite a few superlatives on the debit side of the ledger. It was called, with justice, the scaredest Assembly in history. It instituted the indefensible gag rule which gave its committees a free hand and maintained it in the face of critical committees as the superlation of the superlation of the superlations. hand and maintained it in the face of criticism from within and within at constantly took refuge behind the non-record wote as it disposed of controversial legislation.

Even the cautious Associated Press noted that "falor took a harzh beating at the hands of the General Assembly." The beat-

ing was administered off the record and debate on restrictive labor legislation was distinguished by pame and irrelevancy. This distinguished by pame and irrelevancy throughout the session; the gentlemen could be stampeded by it at will, and frequently were. Civil liberties also took a harsh beating in the process.

And once again the Assembly poked its nose into local business on every possible occasion. The flood of local legislation was even heavier than usual and much of it was, to put it mildly, improper, Juggling the liquor question frantically, the Assembly phase and the liquor question frantically, the Assembly managed an impressive inconsistency. Typically, it refused to support the principle that cities may vote independently on ABC stores, but allowed all cities presenting individual requests to do so.

Certainly the historians will not reserve a special place of honor for the 1847 Gear-al Assembly But, on a comparative basis, they will probably mot effort in the formation of the properties of

#### Are Utilities Strikes Defensible?

TOR the first time in more than a year pickets have appeared on the streets of Charlotte-striking telephone workers parading with placards before the local installations of Southern Bell, "hitting the flicks" along with thousands of fellowworkers in all parts of the nation. This is, as always, a disturbing speciate, and its implications go deeper than the failure of collective bargaining between a single labor union and a single corporation.

A good many private citizens, we suppose, will decide the issue arbitrarily in accordance with their pre's will decide the issue arbitrarily in accordance with their pre's will decide the issue arbitrarily in accordance with their pre's will decide the issue arbitrarily in accordance with their pre's will decide the issue arbitrarily in accordance with their pre's will decide the issue arbitrarily in accordance with their pre's will decide the issue arbitrarily in accordance. The slephones company has countered with an equally reasonable statement of its inability to meet the pay scale proposed by the union. Both sides discialm responsibility for the collapse in negotiations which made the strike inevitable, although, injects of the company's offer of arbitrarily and the union's summary dismissal of the Labor Department's request for post-jonesment of the strike call, the company appears at this reading to be considerably upon a suppose and the strike call, the company appears at this reading to be considerably upon

ponement of the strike sall, the company appears at this reading to be considerably less stubborn.

The union case rests largely upon a The union case rests largely upon a The union case rests largely upon a considerably considerable to the considerable to the company of the constant. Per persons, consulting their own household records, would insist that a salary of as y50, will buy as much today.

The argument, of course, is universal and applies with equal force in the case of every worker, organised and unorganised. It is one of the veil products of the failure to establish adequate safeguards against post-war inflationary pressures. The counter-argument — that every increase in wages only agarvates the situation by insuring a further decrease in dollar values—

is valid enough, but it carries no promise of immediate relief and therefore cannot be

is valid enough, but it carries no promise of immediate relief and therefore cannot be expected to weigh heavily with a worker who is faced with the problem of stretching his pay to meet his living expenses. However, the telephone strike involves a special problem in labor relations. True collective bargaining is patently impossible, for the company is a public utility operating under an income fixed by law. It is not free to meet increased labor costs by interesting under an income fixed by law. It is not free to meet increased labor costs by interesting under an income fixed by law. It is not free to meet increased labor costs by the control of the cost of the free.

All of this seems to us to state a problem that cannot be solved by traditional methods applicable to private industry. The only answer, as we have observed approprious other strikes in public utilities, lies in compulsory arbitration, unpleasant though that alternative may be to both management and the cost of the cost of

### The Heavy Odds Against Progress

If you are one of the 8,400 citizens of Charlotte interested enough in the fate, of the public schools and the size of your own tax bill to participate in the coming school tax election, you have by now had your name inentibed on a special registration book.

If you are one of what we hope will be a cladificant school levy, you will, of course, you would not consider the contract of the post of the post of the post of the post of the year when you go to the polls. But if on election day you are prevented by ill-mess, personal emergency or plain ngall-gence from actually marking your ballot, your vote will be counted against it. This is the net effect of the constitutional restriction which provides that school and other "non-essential" levies must be list to the state of distractanting as clustered actually serves to count a vote he didn't cast, and to count it contrary to his

he is not a matter of unitarianing a con-zen—it actually serves to count a vote he didn't cast, and to count it contrary to his own desires if he happens to approve the

lety under consideration it makes it twice as difficult to cast a vote in favor of a new tax as it does to cast a vote against it. The requirement has defeated a good many important projects in the past, even though a majority of those actually voting expressed themselves favorably. The odds asserted in favor of the opponents of vary "non-one of the opponent opponent of the opponent opponent of the opponent opponent

#### Another Voice

#### The Rights Of Man

The American Civil Liberties Union Teally believes in the rights of man. It defends Westbrook Pegier's right to call a prominent business man a Communist, as well as anybody's right to call the columnist as Red-balter.

is a Red-batter.

Now its director, Roger N. Baldwin, towards for Tokyo to serve as a consultant to the War Department on civil liberties and also to establish Chinese and Philippiase affiliates of the International League for the Rights of Man. He sees it as an American responsibility to apply the principles of the Bill of Rights wherever American incluence extends, and declares:

These principles are clearly challenged in the Common Data State of the Common Data St

by the enormous tasks of reconstructing a degiocracy succeeds will Communism lose its appeal.

Americans have traditionally prized free discussion as the very air that liberty breathes. But liberty does not live on air alone. In't the United States it has struck roots in the rich soil of economic opportunity.

roots in the rich soil of wondern.

A wise policy of economic fertilization
must accompany the sowing of democratic
seed in the Far East if the wilderness is to
blossom as the rose-while Americans at
home will be kept, plenty busy with the
weeds in their local rose gardens. The
rights of man, as Mr. Baldwin well knows,
more than the second of the result of the results of the roots of

Hand-Washing Ceremony



### People's Platform

### A Militant Unity

Editor. The News:

Truils is an open letter to all who in any way
T supported the eampaign for adequate sainties for
teachers and to all others who favor standard educational advantages for all the children of our state.

Since it is impossible to write a personal letter
with the control of the children of our state.

Since it is impossible to write a personal letter
with the control of the

elected a person but most important of all, vindicated as issue—a trust that I become a more than the properties of the CR2. As one within a paramount in our demonstray today. In fact, if the efforts of those who worked for adequate sales for teachers in the South Perdomot Campaignees wrong, the majority of our teachers were wrong, the majority of our teachers were the contract of the states of our union are wrong and the National Educational Association, the National Congress of Parents and acquisition, the National Congress of Parents and any Schools and Colleges are wrong.

These efforts were prompted by the conviction that that classroom teachers' are entitled to a larger along the contraction of the co

Although the appropriation is not adequate to make the appropriation in the designate to by many members of the General Assembly and lar-men alige, many of whom hold positions of prom-mence in the state, that the efforts of the promoten-ness of the state that the efforts of the promoten-ness of the state that the efforts of the promoten-ness of the state that the efforts of the promoten-peroduced, through factual information, all that was appropriated above 20 per cent, including the bonus, or emergency salary.

or emergency salary.

To whom the credit belongs is unimportant and beside the point. I solicit, therefore, the co-operation of the Governor of our state, of the members of the General Assembly, of every parent, teacher, principal. Our committees, of the Bate Superintendent and Board of Education and all departments, of the united forces for education, and of all other groups and orgether with the press and the radio.

There must be a militant unity, we must not deal in personalities of bitterness, but rather in thoughts, deals, efforts, and deeds, which will produce genuincient of our state!

That North Carolina has made wonderful proc-

forward to greater progress and advancement.

We have no quarrel with those who have disagreed with us. To do one's own thinking is a right guaranteed to every citizen by our constitution. It respect this right, and in no way minimize it. With Diamell, although there are those who disagre I would be the first to fight for their right to do so.

it that way.

It had that I have done in the campaign for adequate authers for our seathers in that I have quate authers for our seathers in that I have unged others to do there has been just unged others to do there has been just one, objective—enumely standard educational advantages for all the children of our state To this end and objective I pledge my most sincere and untiring efforts.

Will you increase the number of the noble thou-sands who have joined me?

-R. L. FRITZ JR., President N. C. Education Association

Ah, April

uner old whisky.

The web seemed to think for awhile that they were seemed to think for awhile that they were the log of a bill passed down at Raleigh thing they are the seemed to be drawn at the seemed to be drawn that they were the seemed to be seeme

next paragraph:
"Whether a dry or wet" Mr Gilreath said "everyone should oppose this bill, because by passing it you
are forting the Country Commissioners to do something they have refused to do themselves."
Whether they have refused to do themselves.
We would want the Country Commissioners to have to do
something that they have refused to do themselves.
As, April!

The Feople's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount if. Communications possible, and on only one of the prostible, and on only on the properties with the properties of the prop

Marquis Childs

### **Understanding Soviet**

estrelation most footing time of several time to the current procecupation with Russias and Communism. There has ness and Communism to the communism of the current process it is an unfailing subject that produce provocative and often to the current process of the current pro

UNUSUAL VIEWPOINT

of the war.

UNUSUAL VIEWPOINT

This is not one of those books of way generalization that have comes and provided the provided that the pr

### Stewart Alsop

## Palestine Partition

#### CALLING THE TUNE

CALLING THE TUNE
The British can be longer afford
to pay the piper here. But they
en always decide to wit draw
completely from Pashtine with
potentially catastrophic implicaforeign policy. To that extent they
en call the tune, and in a polit
way, they know it.
Thus the Duried decision when
controlled it in Greece and Tunthey to put up or shut up. In a
sense, the decision has already been
put up in Greece or Turkey, and
at the same time to shut up in
Palestine and in the Middle East.
Thus the task of American policy
makers is to attempt to weed out

# Drew Pearson's: Margaret Asked To Sing For Democrats Merry-Go-Round:

WASHINGTON
WHILE Republicans were literally pounding on the outer
gates during the Lillenthal debate, Democratic national committeemen from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virniha and West Virginik, Sare relyoning a unique session with Harry Truman within the White House,
Harry Truman within the White House,
Committee woman from Pennsylvania or Miller, Democratic
committee woman from Pennsylvania or make. I want as firt whom you know very well to open the '48 Democratic Convention by singing The Star-Spanigled Banner.'
Truman grinned haspile.

continued. "Bhe made her debut only recently and she's very continued." The search that requires theories, haven't J. Gasel' Truman finally replied, looking-gloward Democratic executive director Gale Silvillan. "The answer is no comment regarding Margaret Truman and Trum Star-Spangled Banner," and Margaret Truman and Trum Star-Spangled Banner, and Margaret Truman and Trum Star-Spangled Banner, which is the search of th

Chicago election. "The work of the results and the results of the various surveys." Truman said. "It hink you can safely conclude that the Democratic Party is on the up—" He paused, then added, "and up."

#### GOP Budget Cutting

GOP Budget Cutting

DELAWARES Tunnell bern dissected the Republican Computer of the Computer o

a day speech and read use unique make America strong so that it can infill the destity and assume the leadership toward marking the world peaceful and keeping a posserul world:

During the entire meeting. Truman carefully avoided gring any direct third about his own personal plane. Party proving contacts between the Natioffal Committee and the worldess states.

Praying For Senators