THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

TUESDAY, MAY 27, 1947

Lynching And The Law

THE pattern that preceded the murder of Willie Earle in rural Pickens County, South Carolina, was repeated in all its details in rural Northampton County, North Carolina, last week. Buddy Bush, Negro, was arrested on a crimingl charge involved Carolina, last week. Buddy Bush, Negro, was arrested on a criminal charge involving a member of the white race. He was taken to the nearest jail, a county prishon tended by a single guard who lives on the premises. Within a few hours a mob of armed white men gathered, entered the jail, and took the prisoner at gun-point from the unresisting jailer.

from the unresisting Jaller.

The similarity ends there. Willie Earle went quietly with his captors to the abandoned slaughter house where they tortured him and blew out his brains. Buddy Bush, inspired by terror, broke away from the mob outside the Jullet one of its members sent after him, and disappeared into the night. But the State can take no credit for the miraculous escape that spared his life, and North Carolina's reputation. The distinction between the lynching in Pickens and the attempted lynching in Northampton is only a technical one.

hical one.

The technicality, however, will be suffi-cient to spare North Carolina a measure of the wrath that descended upon her sister state after a Greenville jury acquitted the self-confessed murderers of Willie Earle. And it will take the heart out of the in-vestigation into the attempted lynching. There will be those who will argue per-suasively that, bloodshed having been av-erted arrest of the would be lynching. suasively that, bloodsned naving been av-erted, arrest of the would-be lynchers would only serve to heighten racial ten-sions. And there will be those in high office who will listen, and agree.

who will listen, and agree.

North Carefina, of course, does not deserve to be spared. Her shame should equal
Bouth Carolina's, perhaps even exceed it in
view of her traditional Southern leadership. She must recognize that the blind
race prejudice that made it impossible for
the courts of south Carolina to convict the
lynchers of Willie Earle is the same prejudice that made, it measible for a group of

Junchers of Wille Easte is the same prejudece that made it possible for a group of her own citizens to attempt the lynching of bardy Budy Bud. It is a primitive, ugly and ulterly indefensible passion—and it has defied the sincere and unceasing efforts of a generation of Southerners to put it down. This is the reason many Southern lead-ers, who have fought long and hard against Federal anti-inynching legislation, are now running up the white flag. The failure of South Carolina to convict the lynchers of Wille Earle, and the immediate outbreak of racial violence in North Carolina, they feel, has shattered their sole defense—the argument that the steady decrease in argument that the steady decrease in lynchings over the years proves that the

South is capable of taking care of her own criminals in her own way.

Certainly these two tragic manifestations of the mob spirit are sufficient to nullify the usual, purely provincial process against outside interference. It Southern courts are incapable of dispensing justice, and United States courts are capable, then there is not now, and never has been, any logical reason for protesting a change of justice.

there is not now ann ever mis och, and logical reason for protesting a change of the logical reason for protesting a change of the logical reason of protesting a change of the second of the logical reason and the logical reason a

bill providing for civil damages wouse or enforceable."

Perhaps this would represent some improvement over local statut® dealing with the crime of lynching, Perhaps the Pederal courts would be more efficient than those ited more closely to local politics. But this certain lessening of local responsibility which would follow if all lynching cases were placed under exclusive Federal jurisdiction.

Lynching after all, is the ultimate flower lynching after all, is the ultimate flower.

were placed under exclusive Federal jurisdiction.

Lynching, after all, is the ultimate flower of a dark and bitter prejudice that is part of the South's heritage. It can not be treated as a thing spart; curtailment of the crime itself, through fear of efficient Federal court action, will be only a minor social gain unless the underlying prejudice is materially reduced in the process. A more effective attack upon the whole problem, it still seems to us, lies in the effort to increase the sense of responsibility of the average Southerner until lynching disappears because he will no longer tolerate it. Over the years the South has established a heartening record in that field, the Earle and Bush cases have blotted it, but they have not eradicated it.

New York Was Not Impressed

NEW YORKERS are skeptics and proud of it, and we gather that the United States Army Air Forces' best effort caused not a ripple when the city was subjected to a mock bombing raid last week. Time reported:

New Yorkers who had never seen a real bombing raid were curious but not much impressed. More than anything else the 11 day in 1933 when a mass flight of colosiescent planes of all size—the nation's entire air strength at the time—was also cortresses were virtually the entire effective strength of the Strategic Air Command.

mand.

It is fortunate, we think, that the AAP's main business is not impressing New Yorkers. Only size and numbers alacken the big city law, and these are no longer prime factors in modern war. If the AAP had been able to put 5,000 Superfortesses over Manhattan it would doubtless have quick-ened many a civilian heart, but it would only have depressed a for ward-looking military man.

The immortant thing shout the "guid" on the read of the state of the sta

The important thing about the "raid" on New York is that the giant planes tra-

versed vasa distances in a short time and arrived from several directions. Some of them would have penetrated the most effective air raid defenses now known. And if only one of them had laid an improved atomic egg on Manhattan Island the casualty list would have run into millions and the largest city in the United States would, in all probability, have been knocked out of action.

action.

In World War III, unless it comes very soon, the sky will rarely be black with polanes. As a matter of fact observers on the ground will probably never see or hear the destruction that comes their way, borne by supersonic guided missiles. Even the later model buzz-bombs of World War III traveled faster than sound, arriving and exploding before the drumming of their motors was audible to their victims.

These things, we suppose, are beyond the understanding of an unbombed people. We only hope the blase New Yorkers will never be treated to the only sort of blitz demostration that can finally convince them that they live in the very vulnerable capital of a very small world.

Mercy's Building Fund Campaign

FORTY-ONE years ago the Sisters of . PORTY-ONE years ago the Sisters of Mercy arrived in Chairotte to establish a little 25-bed hospital. Qutelly and without castentation they assumed their obligation to minister to the sick. Over the years they have expanded their ministration until they now operate one of the City's major hospitals. And the process of expansion still goes on; before long Mercy Hospital will make available to the general public 275 badly-needed beds.

275 badly-needed beds.

In the early days the Sisters may have run into hostility as a result of the conflict between their theology and the Protestant tradition of the region. If so it has long-since disappeared. They have demonstrated beyond question that their first obligation is to the sick and alling, and their ministration of the protection of th

to all comers, and they still are.

Until now the Sisters have been able to carry on without siking for any direct assistance from the community. Their hospital has been maintained by voluntary contributions from Catholics and Protestants alike, and by heavy donations from their own order. But now, in the middle of their latest expansion program and beest by rising construction costs they face a financial crisis. They will need \$1,000,000 to complete the work in progress, and they sur raise only \$1,000,000 from the usual surces. So, for the first time, they are hunting to the public for help.

Hencey's drive for \$300,000 in public sub-

scriptions begins on June 2. The value of the services the hospital has rendered the people of Charlotte and the surrounding area cannot be measured in dollars and cents, of course, but if it could the half-million-dollars the Slaters are asking would be only a fraction of it. The community cannot do less than meet this appeal from an institution that has served it so long and so well.

Again it is pointed out that Elizabeth, though a Princess and future monarch, is only a commoner, being in this respect no better off than an American bean queen of 1932. It has been fairly evident, we think, that the widely-discussed Hutchins report on the state of the American press doesn't necessarily reflect the opinions of editors who discuss it.

Our leftist friends have about given up on Harry Truman—among other things, for throwing out that first baseball with his right hand, which was very Republican of him.

"You never can tell till you try," said an ingenious local moppet, as he dropped the pup into the Bendix.



'Not Guilty'

People's Platform

Challenge To Graduates

IMMEDIATELY following the obscontinuance of the Selective Service, Act on March 31, the Secretary of War called upon all Americans to co-operate in on the traditional voluntary system.

It is especially important that members of high school graduating classes this year be informed researching the repeated by the content of the searching the repeated by the first graduating class since 1940 which has not faced the probability of military service through the direct graduating class since 1940 which has not faced the probability of military service through the draft.

They are the first traduating class in six years whose actions and attitude toward military service through the draft.

As Secretary of War Patterson has shift "In view of world conditions today, this is a step of the gravest of the of the gravest

"I have confidence in the young men of America, whose opportunity it is to choose this fine profession. And I believe we can do the Job—If we have three things; public understanding, public support and public action."

public action."

Service in the Army today is not simply a duty. It is an opportunity that is rich in experience—in chances to travel to far-away places—to learn a useful skill or trade—and to be well paid while learning it.

ful skill or trade—and to be well paid while learning it.

Compares, in order to support the voluntary system, has provided my and benefits for servicement today that never have been equalide before in the history of this country.

This has been wise because no well-informed means to be the service well-informed the service will be the service well-informed the service will be the service will spent and to it should be given pay and opportunities that will make their time in the service well spent and of advantage to their futures.

We can point with pride to the fact that, so we can point with pride to the fact that, so we can point with pride to the fact that, so we can point with pride to the fact that, so the fact that, so we can point with pride to the fact that, so we can be succeeded in meeting life require-

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Editors. The News:

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Recruiting

Editors, Tra Naws:

I WISH to express to you on behalf of the United WISH to express to you on behalf of the United Cour sincere appreciation for your splendid co-operation in our effort to recruit eligible men for service in the Regular Army.

Due to this co-operade As you know the success of any campaign depends entirely upon the support size in it. Without your help our campaign could not have been the auccess that it is.

The success that it is to be a success that it is

The People's Platform is excitable to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be less than 300 words, typenritten 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 requestive will withhold the writer's name.—Editors, Tux News.

Joseph & Stewart Alsop

Harold Speaks Out

WASHINOTON point where he atood neck and neck with Thomas E. Dewey. The out — bang! — with what a great with Thomas E. Dewey. The out — bang! — with what a great point where he atood neck and the proposed of the proposed o

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DARING GAMBLE

Samuel Grafton

D.A.R. & Immigration

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We do more and more of this business of departing from the principles that made us what we are, and calling that departure Americanism You cannot defend the current virtual ban on immigration as soundly traditional, because it left. The tradition runs exactly the other way.

cause it will be treation runs of the control of th

SPECIOUS REASONING .

SPECIOUS REASONNG

But speaker before the D.A.R.

But speaker before the speaker before the

And it goes with so much else that is happening today. It goes with the way we have suddenly become analous to have all our Gorment employees, and all our owner thoughts, and in the same manner.

Again, this kind of stuff is not in the American tradition: it is quite a most un-active month of the control of the control

Drew Pearson's : State Department Has Unique 'Red List'

JAMES CLEMENT DUNN. U. 8. Ambassador to Haly, a sways has been considered one of the "safest" men in the He foodsh hard to 'safe administration against Lowslist Spain, did his best to support Franco, used his influence against admission of refugees when Hiller began to sear up

Europe.

He also married one of the wealthy Armour daughters, and Mrs. Dunn has been considered equally safe. Never has anyone suspected either of them of a "Red" thought, or being even remotely friendly to Russfa. being even remotely friendly to Russfa.

Some weeks ago, however, the Un-American Affairs Committee of Congress sent the State Department a list of employees whom they considered unsafe and subversive. The list included quite a few State Department wives who had joined organizations listed as either Communist or Communist front.

joined organizations listed as either Communist front.

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Secret Labor Debate

Secret Labor Debate

THE closed-edor season of the Senate-House conference on the Labor Bill have been featured by Senator Tati's determination to get the milder provisions of his bill adopted. He opened up the first conference by announcing:

"It you want labor legislation at this season, you can easy to be senated by the senate bill. If you want labor legislation at this season, you can easy to be senated by the best bill. House House bill, then I can tell you, now that the Senate will not accept them.

"We're wasting out time talking here unless we approve something acceptable to the Senate," wared Tati. except them.

"We're wasting out time talking here unless we approve something acceptable to the Senate," wared Tati. except them.

"We're wasting out time talking her unless we approve something acceptable to the Senate," wared Tati. The could muster enough voices (two-thirds majority) to override a Presidential veto if the first labor bill was similar to that already passed by the Senate.

"But it same decent approximating that."

"Reaction to the Tatil plea varied. Tough-talking OOP Congressman Fred Hartley of New Jersey, author of the agreed to "po along." Both, however, later put up a strong battle against the new National Labor Relations Board setup provided in the Senate bill, whichign, a staunch New Dealer, demurred. He declared that both the Senate bill—the Senate blue, the Senate blue, the Senate blue, the Senate of the Senate on the Senate of the S

Two Labor-Baiters

L OUDEST opposition to Taft came from labor-baiting Republican Representative Clare Hoffman of Michigan, Dem-

"That's absurd," declared Lesinski. "I'm against Communists too, but I'm not in favor of punishing the great majority of workers in a union it, through no fault of theirs, two or three Communists happen to bore in. That's something you can't always control. Let's leave out the witch-hunting."

Lesinski also took issue with New Jersey's Hartley an Indiana's Landis, when they held out for separating the administrative and judicial functions of the Labor Boarc administrative and judicial functions of the Labor Boarc complaining that the NLRB now seled as "judge, prosecute and jury." Therefore, the Board should stick to judicia functions, with an independent administrator to supervisergional NLRB lawyers and the prosecution of case.

regional NLRB lawyers and the prosecution of cases.

"Well J an against separation of powers," put in Lesinski. "That's one thing about the Senate bill I whole-heartedly approve. It doesn't monkey with basic operations, but it does provide for an extra three-man panel to hear cases. This should greatly expedite the work of the Board. In fact, it's my opinion that the Senate bill makes a wat improvement in the NLRB.

Tait beamed delightedly at this Democratic tribute to his efforts. However, Hartley and especially Landis con-tinued to insist that a separation of the Board's power would be better all around, for labor as well as employers