

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Erosion At Democracy's Base

SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1947

Erosion At Democrac

In this republic hes structure of government is made up of independent, units
arranged in iters. At the bottom is the
nuncipal government, and it is, therefore,
closest to the individual citizen. He will
know personally most of the men who
make it up. He can, without undue effort,
watch it work; the bureaurantie fastnesses
of Washington are remote, but City Hall
is just down the street.
It should follow, then, that municipal
elections would call forth a maximum vote.
In North Carolina, unhappily, they do not.
In recent weeks municipal primaries in
four of the largest citizes in the state passed
with scarcely a rippie of public interest.
Less than 10,000 of Charlotte's 115,000 citigens went to the polits; in Greasbore only
some 3,000 out of 25,000 eligible voters cast
their ballots; in Raleigh 8,000 out of an estimated 16,000 eligibles voted; in Asheville,
which made the most impressive showing. which made the most impressive showing, only 60 per cent of the eligible voters par-

only 60 per cens of the displaced.

The Asheville Citizen finds these figures profoundly disturbing. Casting about for an explanation it finds that lack of canditates cannot be blamed; there was a large field in every case. This leaves only one

other answer—the absence of partisan competition. Most of us do not think of the effects of the one-party system in terms of municipal control of the one-party system in terms of municipal control of the one-party system in terms of municipal control of the one-party system in terms of municipal control of the control o

## What To Do About Henry

ON one of its broadcasts to the world, the State Department reviewed the new blography, the Wallaces of lone. Although the broadcaster avoided the latterday history of the last of the Wallaces, he did have words of praise for young Henry's work as an agricultural scientist and editor-publisher of a distinguished farm journal.

Senator George of Georgia has protested even this. No words of praise for Henry Waliace, not even for so constructive and innocent an activity as the development of hybeid corn seed, he insists, should be broadcast by the State Department at a time when the man is stumping the world eriticizing American foreign policy.

This raises several interesting questions. The purpose of the State Department roadcasts is to sell the American Way to The purpose of the State Department broadcasts is to sell the American Way to the world and particularly to that part of it under, Russian domination. This, obviously, is propagands, or at least counterpropagands. But the State Department has defended its action on the ground that its broadcasts tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth—the truth about democracy being the best possible propaganda for it.

But if Senator George's demand is met, the State Department will refuse to recognize the existence of Henry Wallace, either as foreign policy critic or agriculturalist. It cand os a, of course, without broadcasting deliberate untruths, but certainly it cannot do so without broadcasting something less than the whole truth. Whether

we agree with him or not, Henry Wallace exists, he is tangible and he is vocal. And you may be sure that the Russian propa-gandists see to it that every Russian knows that Henry Wallace is a principal critic of

candists see to it that every Russian knows that Henry Wallace is a principal critic of American foreign policy.

So, first of all, there is a question of principle involved. Does the State Department have a right to broadcast only material that follows the line flaid down by its own policies? Second, there is a practical question. What will a Russian listener, who knows full well that a former Vice-President is shouting opposition to the State Department at home and abroad, think of a "truthful" propagands broadcast that never mentions him?

Our own idea of a proper solution to the Wallace problem would be for the State Department to put him on the air occasionally and let him debate his comic chories with, say, Undersecretary Dean Acheson. If the State Department's solutions to the world's ills are superior to Mr. Wallace's dand we believe they are't then there is no reason to fear such a stat. And, of course, the debate itself would make the

there is no reason to fear such a test. And, of course, the debate itself would make the strongest point in the State Department's propagands campaign—that the United States is, at this reading at least, the last nation on the face of the earth where every man is free to disagree with his government. Would this only serve to present the United States to the world as a confused and, divided nation? Perhaps, but it ought to be a welcome change from Radio Moscow, which has always followed the policy proposed by Senator George.

# The Biggest Bar Bill In History

WE will agree in advance with the prohibitionist that the \$3,700,000,000
Americans spent on beer, wine and whisky
in 1946 is an appailing figure, Although it
does not, as the prohibitionist American
Business Men's Research Foundation would
have you believe, represent more in an
it atill far too hish.
However, the situation isn't quite as bad
as a hasty giance would indicate. That
staggering bar bill does not, for instance,
indicate that consumption of a le o ho lic
beverages has doubled or tripled. A major
part of the increase in the nation's liquor
bill is due to taxes (which did double during the war, increased costs, and excessive
profits after repeal of OPA.

Forty per cent of the 1946 total expendi-

Forty per cent of the 1946 total expendi-Forty per cent of the 1946 total expendi-ture for alcoholic beverages went to the Federal, state and local governments in taxes. (The tax collectors got over 50 per cent of the five billion dollar outlay for hard liquon.) If the liquor interests had a good year, so did the Bureaus of Internal Beverue.

Moreover, a study of official records of per capita consumption of distilled spirits provides evidence that the great increase in drinking in 1946 was a phenomenon characteristic of an abnormal post-war period. Over the years there has been a steady decline in consumption, except for temporary upsurges in times of war and or sumption of hard liquor was 2.24 gallons; in 1860, 28: in 1860, 13: cent reports show liquor sales off more than 50 per cent in all parts of the country. It seems that 1946 will go down in history

### Another Voice

# An Opportunity For The South

DECAUSE of the location of Oak Ridge "At their doorstep," Southern Universities and colleges are at an obvious advantage of the colleges are at an obvious and variaties and colleges are at an obvious and variaties and applying atomic energy, a group of scientists were told at Nashville the other day by Dr. Paul Abersoid, head of the isotopes branch at Oak Ridge.

Since the first atomic bomb burst over Hirostima the world his been acutely conscious of a new source of energy, terrifying in its destructive potentials but holding breath-taking possibilities for raising the atandard of living to new heights if used for peace.

Naturally, the greater the number of minds that are trained to work on the problem the greater the progress we shall make. And it follows that the region which most encourages this training shall be the first to benefit from industrial applications of atomic energy as they are developed in the laboratory.

Here, then, Southern universities and blieges are presented with the golden op-ortunity of which Dr. Aebersold spoke.

The scientist said it was essential to the reliare of the nation that as many students as possible be educated in radiocitivity, nuclear physics and related

"The future picture of the nation." Dr. Aebersold said, "will include more chain-reacting (atomic energy) piles over the country and more applications of this new atomic power."

Vanderbilt University at Nashville, some 150 miles from Oak Ridge, now has the most advanced programs on isotopes in the South, the scientist said.

south, the scientist said.

It is certain that the study of atomic energy is gaining headway in educational institutions of the South, as evidenced by the 100 Southern scientists who attended the conference at which Dr. Aebersold spoke. These scientists are the nucleus of a new group of highly specialized technicians now arising in the South and the nation. They and their student proteges will gain more and more importance as time and research conditions.

research continue.

Because of the almost infinite possibilities offered by the practical application of
atomic energy for industrial use, Southern
very that the continue of the continue o



Patience

## People's Platform

# Appeal To Cupidity? North Carolina. What will be the outcome of June 14th no one can tell for we cannot say how the count will go. Go as it may, Charlotte will be a wet piace after June 14th.

names unknown. The purpose of this committee is an Anti-Booley-Campaign—an ABC stores to replace a suppose the property of the

liquor is winked at by Mecklenburg officers and allowed to flow freely in Charlotte 11 would appear so.

Long after the heat of the campaien for liquor to the property of the control of

-INEZ FLOW.

### Wet Place

Editors. THE NEWS:

Editors. The News:

I There are two ways to vote in Charlotte; one is the legal way and the other is the illegal, and any way you and I can or may vote the town will be wet, three is for day way in consistent with the wet of the three is for day way in Charlotte, just day thoughter three is the consistent with the work of the consistency way in the consistency way

the core. What is a law worth it you don't use it.

There is a chance for each voter to do his part,
so show your color and choice, so poll your own. I
am going to poll mine for the legal way, you poll
yours as you see fit. It will be a wet Queen City
stire the 14th, just as she is today. Our votes will
all be wet so let's go, win or lose. ,

J. C. VAUGHN.

piace after June 14th.

I hope everybody votes as I expect to, and that is just as I darn please. That should be everyone's privilege but they don't always do that way. Let it go as it may, but I always a change. Let's regulate the stuff, for what we have now is rotten to the core. What is a law worth if you don't use it!

### Grammar MORGANTON

Intractend by Jew Unit.
The part I object to is Jew Unit. That could have more correctly have read "Jewshi Unit"—United ready to the degroom Unit. "Tigun Jewshi Unit" of or that matter "Jewshi Patriot Unit" (remember the revolution of 1778 against the Britishers?) Be it was it may, the manner in which you state Jew unit reaches a low in grammar. In fulrers and correct newspaper work. You sir, should make proper amends—will you?

If you get copies of anti-semitic poison sheets you'll find your example of "Jew" this and "Jew" -S R: CHESLOCK

CHARLOTTE

(NOTE: The use of a noun as an adjective is a technical violation of the rules of grammar, but not of the rules of grammar, but not of the rules of meadine-writing, which are distinct of the rules of the property of the state of the state

Editors. The News:

A S Commander of the Howard Hughers Municipal
Post of the American Ledion I want to take this
opportunity to thank The Charlotte News for the
sopportunity to thank The Charlotte News for the
sopportunity to Old Piddlers Convention. Mr. Dick
Young, your City Hall reporter, did a splendid job for
us and we are indeed grateful for same.

Our post netted something over \$800 and this money will be used to further our charity and civic work here in Charlotte.

—GEORGE B. LIVINGSTON SR.

### Marquis Childs

# Marshall's Report

and Turkey.

But the important fact is that the great majority in Congress is behind the present policy. And this means that the great majority of the American people will be found more or less in accord with the firm line that Secretary Marshall has taken.

more or less in accord with the firm line that Secretary Marshail irm line that Secretary Marshail II does not, of course, mean that a bi-partian foreign policy will inevitably bring agreement on all phases of that policy. The truth is phases of that policy. The truth is greatly overworked in this owner, and the secretary overworked in the secretary overworked in the secretary overworked in the secretary overworked in the secretary of the secretary overworked in the secretary of the se

change.

Co-operation depends, in the last analysis, on the skill and tact of

SECRETARY OF STATE George

C. Marshall's report on the
Moscow Conference is not likely a
Most of the party of foreign
was the cludes a many from
that seasion with the sober reads
and Democratic came away from
that seasion with the sober reads
as a month of the country while the issue submompromising our basic interest
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the earl independent salvises
as the could go at Moscow without
compromising our basic interest
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compromising our basic interest
of read independent salvises
and Democratic leader, Sen. Alben
Harden was the season of the country while the issue submorphoral to the sould go at Moscow
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and permandent interest of
the country while the issue submorphoral to the country while the
morphoral to the country while the

amendments intended to bring the policy in line with United Nations co-operation.

O-operation with United Nations Co-operation to the U. N. Assembly. Under the Company of the Company of

ing Tho in Belgrade, Steel comes, up with these extraordinary quotes:

EMPTY AGREEMENT

The Yugoday people love Wallace as a man who belongs to the
lace as a man who belongs to the
case. We like people who are objective. On the whole," and here
till ogrinned broadly, "I agree with
the greater part of Wallace's
speeches grin broadly at that one.
We can even laugh out loud. For
we know how empty that kind of
agreement is. We know it is a conentirely pose assumed to serve the
current. Community, attacky in the
Balkars and throughout the world.

## Samuel Grafton

# New Isolationism

NEW YORK.

To not say we are going fools—
to the say and the crude sense of
compiler than the say of the say of
compiler than the say of the say of
compiler than the say of the say of
compiler than the say of
compiler than the say of

new isolation.

For we are, in effect, spending a great sum of money to build a wall; and we are not quite as concerned as we might be how well people are going to fare behind that wall; and walls are isolationist, and unconcern is isolationist.

Merry has lookstoomer.

164' MODEL

1. It might be objected that to send officers, suns and money into faraway Greece and Turkey certainly decent look solications, it it looks, included the control of the control of

tief tunds to be spent in America, you begin to wonder a little.

THAT OLD FEELING
Even the judicialism here over the Even the judicialism here over the little of the control of the cont

THOUGHTS ON WALLS

THOUGHTS ON WALLS

The point is one about those feelings which bubble just below the surface, and of what we might first out about ourselves if we were to integrate our present scattered thoughts about wails, and congratulations, about the non-making of a treaty, and sudden warmth about near neighbors, so very different of course from neighbors a little further away.

# Drew Pearson's: Russians Banking On Depression In U. S. Merry-Go-Round Balance-Wheel Barkley

ONE of the most significant things General Marshall removed by the impression that the Russians are stalling for the state of the state

has made repeated appeals for price reduction.

Kept Stalin Guessing

CNERRAL MARSHALL'S widely publicized meeting at the

Uwhite House the other night just as well have been

breadcast. The Congressmen who attended heard only two

things that the Secretary of State did not tell the nation

Marshall did impress his listeners with one important

marshall did impress his listeners with one important

thing—his own increased assurance. Before going to Moscow

to seemed unusure of himself in this new role of diplomati
tile Moscow Conference had given the military-man-turned
peacemaker a new self-confidence.

One new aspect Marshall gave the solons was that he

fell he had been psychologically wise in waiting until nearly

Generalissimo Stalin. Other foreign ministers had asked for

an interview early in the conference, but Marshall said he

cellierately held back.

To kept the fluxiations of the capitained.

To kept the fluxiations of last did done most of the talking

carring his stalin interview. He ind outlined the American

position not to abandon our interest in Europe and explained that American objectives were 2m anter of determined principle" upon which we are not prepared to yield. Russian disregard for earlier commitments, he said, was seriously stransing relations between the two countries. Stalin, Marshall reported, listened quiety and gravely, and the said of the

## Penny-Pinching Taber

established the reputation of being the No. I Congressional pennypincher.

There, includes the configuration of th

agreements with Russia. President Truman, however, became even more impatient.

As Marshall started to explain, the President interThat is exactly the thing we're trying to work out," he
said. "Some of our greatest difficulties arise from the fact
that we are determined to spare the American taxpayler as
much of the control of the control of the control
might have gone even further and pointed out that sometimes the expenditure of a few preventive dollars in peacetime can asset billions of warting dollars later.

SENATOR Alben Barkley of Kentucky, recently returned from Egypt and the Near East, was attending a private lunch in the Capitol for the Duke of Windsor.

lunch in the Capited for the Duke of Windsor.

"Alben," remarked Senator Scott Lucas of Illinois, with a siy grin, "you and Henry Wallace were both abroad at the sime time. And, you know, we didn't miss either of you.

The genial Barkley got, some good-natured ribbing from remarks of the control of the co

man pointy.

"Hereatler", added Barkley, "whenever Henry goes abroad, I'll have to go abroad, too, to counterbalance him." Note—Though Barkley disagrees with Wallace on foreign policy, he has a high regard personally for the ex-Vice-Precident.

## White House Dinner

THE subptious White House dinner for President Aleman of Mexico went off smoothly except for one thing.

Usually Assistant Secretary of State Spruille Braden, exAmbassator to Argentina, interprets the White House 
speeches of visiting Latin Americans. This time, however,

Ambasson to Argentina, interprets the White House speeches of visiting Latin Americans. This time, however, he Instead, Ramon Betefa, Mexico's Minister of Finance, was introduced after President Alasma delivered his speech, which frome guests did not realize he was interpreting the President of Mexico. They got no clue until the very end when Betefa remarked:

when Betefa remarked:

Thave tried to say in English exactly what my President told you." Prinance Minister added with a flourish of Then the Finance Minister added with a flourish of the United States."
Truman, taken by surprise, railled to the occasion and quickly proposed a toast in return.