FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1947

The Choice Before The Voters

Uninary, prohibition is a personal question-for those who don't drink as well as the those who don't drink as mell as the those who do. The law itself is the state of the sta

zenburg county.

The Drys themselves recognise this. They say the question is not whether Meckienburg shall be set of dry. but whether it would attempt the set of dry. but whether it would attement they recognize that a root against ABC carries with it an oblipation to work to strengthen the existing probabilion statutes, and to personally and actively support police officers in their effort to uphold the law.

We wonder, however, how many Dryshave considered the implications of the stand they are now taking. We suggest the following catechism for every person who is prepared to enter the polling bottomerrow and cast a ballot against ABC

(1) Are you willing to forswear the use f alcoholic beverages from this time for-

(2) Are you willing to abstain from social intercourse with those who consume or serve alcoholic beverages?

(3) Are you willing to report to the police any and all violations of the prohibition law that may come to your attention—ex-actly as you would report violations of the law against murder, rape, arson, etc.?

(4) Are you willing to go into court and testify against any person you find con-suming or serving alcoholic beverages in defiance of the law?

urrance or the law?

That, it seems to us, is the obligation the Dry voter must assume when he casts his ballot against establishment of legal stores in Mecklenburg County. If he intends to declare the sale and consumption of hard liquor criminal, he must be prepared to freat it as he would any other crime. He cannot salve his conscience with mere personal abstinence; he must consciously cannot saive his conscience with the per-sonal abstinence; he must consciously bring to bear upon all those who use liquor the social condemnation he would direct at a murderer, a rapist or a procurer.

UNLESS he does accept that obligation the Dry voter is only defeating his own purpose. It he is sincers in his convictions, he does not need a law to guarantee his personal abditience. His aim is to prevent all men from consuming liquor be outlawing H. His own—with the convenience of the convenien his personal abstinence. His aim is to pre-vent all men from consuming iluquer by outlawing it. His own willingness to obey the law is therefore meaningless in terms of the social purpose he seeks to serve; he can achieve that end only by actively up-holding and supporting the law as it ap-plies to those who do drink.

This is why prohibition is different from all the other laws on the statute books. It alone does not have and has never a had popular support that outside the prohibition of the prohib

meaning.

Experience under both national and state laws demonstrates that making drinking illegal does not make it unpopular. Prohibition does not attach any real stima to the liquor traffic; rather it serves the socially destructive puropse of removing the stiems that normally attaches to the violation of any law. Defiance of the liquor laws becomes a casual, socially acceptable act—as it is now in Mecklehourg. For every drinker who is discouraged by the fact that liquor is illegal, a dosen are encouraged to violate the law.

violate the law.

Thus it cannot be argued that prohibition is better than no law at all. Prohibition is were than useless—it actually serves to comound a variety of social evils by establishine a highly profitable field of criminal endeavor within the limits of popular approach. One does not have to be a student of the law to recognize the danger inherent in a situation in which the most respected members of the community, as consumers, Join hands in illicit enterprise with common criminals.

MECKLENBURG has tried prohibition for almost forty years, under a variety of laws including the most stringent that could be devised. Prohibition has not ended drinking, or even, so far as any man can prove, materially reduced it. Tomorrow Mecklenburg has an oncontunity to reclace her present lawless liquor system with the most stringent and efficient asystem of liquor control in existence anywherer—a system that denies any individual the right to profit from the liquor that the process of the most prevent boolegains, and turns over all proceeds to the community.

The prohibitionists, admitting nast fall-

proceeds to the community.

The prohibitionists, admitting past fallures, promise a crusade to enforce the law
if they promise a crusade to enforce the law
if they promise is quite empty, despite its obtrous sincerity. The ABC advocates, on
the other hand, ask only that Mecklenburg
give the State storce a fair trial for a
three-pear period to see if local conditions
will not be greatly improved. Only those
who are satisfied with thines as they are,
it seems to us, are justified in voting
against this experiment in control.

Yes, It Was A Civil War

WE ARE in receipt of a communication issued by Commander-in-Chief Nell D. Cranmer of the Sons of Union Veterans in the Civil War and designed to settle once and for all any question as to the official title of the recent unpleasantness. "The war of 1861 to 1855 was not a War Between the States but a Civil War." Commander Cranmer proclaims.

mander Cranmer proclaims.

We had not realized that this was still a burning issue, but we are interested in the nine points set forth by the Commander, with the assistance of the historian of the Cincinnati Department, SUVCW. The Constitution, we are told, doesn't permit the states to make war on one another. The Supreme Court has referred to the unpleasantness as a Civil War. The official record published by Congress refers to "The War of the Rebellion." Abraham Lincoln in the Gettyburg' Address said, "We are now engaged in a great civil war..."

Confederate Generals Beauregard, Law, Joseph E. Johnston, Hood. Kirby Smith, Cheatham, Imboden, Wade Hampton, Basil W. Duke and others wrote articles for the old Century Magazine under the general-title, "Battles and Leaders of The Civil War." The United States flag used by the Union forces during the war contained 4 stars, including one for each of the rebeis.

stars, including one for each of the rebels.

There is other evidence, and it too may be regarded as conclusive. But the best argument, it seems to us, is overlooked by Commander Cranmer. Historically, a victorious army is entitled to call the war it won anything it pleases, There being little doubt that the 'Peds defeated the Rebs. we are prepared to Bracefully accept the fact that what they engaged in was in fact a Civil War, and not a War Between the States, or even a War for Independence.

But if old Marse Bob had had just one nore regiment . . .

Another Voice

Eat, Drink And Be Happy

O'UR sympathies were all with the plump matron in the pink dress who wedged herself between the stool and the soda counter of a downtown fizzery and confided, somewhat belilgerently, to the young lady behind the bar that ahe had been "working hard" on a diet for two weeks, that she felt miserable, hadn't lost a pound, and would therefore have a double banana split—but with plenty of whipped cream, dearie.

Association, advised the girls to away their girdles and keep their les filled with good food and drink, wwished to avoid stomach ulcers.

ey whiched to avoid stomach ulcers.

Her antidotes for the malaise inclal to the fast tempo of modera living
offered by the doc. He advises all of
ot to go more than five hours at a
ch without tood, to sit erectly instead
muple, to drink something the didn't
whath at least once an hour, not to
light belts, and to get plenty of rest.

I of which sounds like good advice,

easy to take, but then he goes on and says: "Relax, don't be tense."

Just how that can be done with Uncle Joe throwing his weight around in the Balkans, John Lewis knotting his eye-brows at us at home, and no way of know-

Another commission is told to get to the bottom of things in Palestine, and some day a couple of these parties will meet, like crews of tunnel diggers under the Hudson.

Ernie Bevin has endeared himself to no one in ascribing failure of the Moscow meet to the American press. We deny it, and Molotov will resent the slight.

Earmarked for France are 150,000 tons of American corn, and a race that has dis-tilled everything from potatoes to pome-granates will know what to do.

Now up from Chile are onlons weighing a pound apiece. Or the breath of Spring in the family economy size.

'Hev! What Am I Planting Here?"



People's Platform

The Other Side

Editors, The News:

AS a plain, ordinary citizen of the South I think
the picture of our race relations has been
badly distorted in the news. The florrible Greenville, S. C., episode is no more typical of the South
than the Valentine Day Massacre of ganuster days
is typical of the Midwest or Murder Inc., of New York.

is typical of the Midwest of Murger Inc., of New Folk.

If we must talk about each other, why not say
nice things? There are lots of them to be said. The
following editorial from The Asheville Citizen is
spointaneous evidence of the true race relations in

bb South:

"In the past few weeks the South has recoiled in shock and shame from incidents of racial crime and racial tension which manuffy the utiler side of its peculiar social problem. But there is, we submit, a more pleasant aspect. An incident of this kind comes to mind from the recent phase of junior nurses' aids training in Asheville.

kind comes to mind from the recent phase of junior univers' able raining in Abbreville.

One of the three groups comes women who are not considered the recomment of the process of the comments of the process of the comments of the process of the

Red Peril

ASHEVILLE

Humanitarian

Editors, Tue News:

WE as true Americans and as a peaceful, nonwaggressive, humanitarian nation, should be alproceed to the state of the state o

that we Americans keep the secret of the atomic bounds. The News:

CHARLOTTE

Editors, The News:

WITH an estimated six million Communists and Wellow travelers in the United States, many of them in radio, educational institutions, labor united states, many of them in radio, educational institutions, labor united states, many of them in radio, educational institutions, labor united with the propositions of the Federal Government, it is propositional to the proposition of the Federal Government, it is propositional to the state of the state of the state of the federal Government of European countries who now chafe under the rom head of Federal Government of European Countries and the state of European Countries who now chafe under the rom head of Federal Government of European Countries and the state of European Countries who now chafe under the rom head of Federal Government of European Countries and the state of European Countries who now chafe under the rom head of Federal Government of European Countries and the state of European Countries and the European Co

Marquis Childs

Dwindling Dollars

WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT TRUMMN and his control of the world. That includes Washington, where it is fast becoming the species of the world. That includes Washington, where it is fast becoming the reporters in shingt every college makers.

In fact, the dwindling dollar disturbs the sleep of officials and importers in sinusci every capital.

The fact washington, where it is fast becoming the price was high. The people of the world. That includes Washington, where it is fast becoming the price was high read with the portent of trouble on the near the price was high the properties of the world. The trouble on the near the price was highly and the price was highly the properties of the price washington, where it is fast becoming the price washington, where it is to be price washington, where it is to be price washington. The properties washington, where it is to be price washington, where it is to be price washington. The properties washington, where it is to be price washington, where it is to be price washington. The properties washington, where it is to be price washington, where it is to be price washington. The properties washington, where it is to be price washington, where it is to be price washington. The properties washington, where it is to be price washington. The price washington washington washington

portent of trouble on the near horizon.

Like the United States, Canada just now is enjoying a high level of prosperity. That means that from this country as never before, measured both by volume of goods and in dollar volume. It also means that the unbalance between goods both the U.S.A. is greater than ever before, the country of the U.S.A. is greater than the process of the U.S.A. is greater than the country of the U.S.A. is greater than the country of the U.S.A. is greater than the country of the U.S.A. is greater than the U

ver before.

That, of course, is the catch, the supply of U. S. Bollars is unning out. As in Great Britain, 1 France, Belgium, Holland, and 1 India, the question before the anadian Government is what to do 1 the face of this dwindling retree.

LATEST REPORT

that such a condition could not continue indefinitely.

The next official report on Can-da's dollar-egold position will be mouth. It may show such a shrinkage that Canada will be forced to curtail and control imports from the international sedger have as continued in the control imports from the international sedger have a scanner gestures of good will.

Most of us in this country seem to be as yet bissfully unaware of what it will mean to us to have the dollars run out or come so close to running out that barriers must other day which gave a hint of how each and every one of us—if

the producer would be continued.

TAOM MOVES UP

Farmers get 80 per cent of partty In flauring parity, the code
what the farmer must buy is takninto account—his machin, his
ruch, the feed for his animal. Those
parity—the guaranteed floor under farm prices—moves up.

That is possible so long an outnumber farm prices—moves up.

That is possible so long and and
and the sould be sould be so the socelled surpluses from farm and
factory begin to pile up, then the
easy solution of a seller's market
seasy solution of a seller's market
seasy solution of a seller's market
begin the seasy solution of a seller's market
seasy solution to be seasy seller's seller's

Samuel Grafton

Program And Results

NEW YORK

SON now, those who have been
managing our Russian policy
will have to show results, or admit
they have none to show. We have
the Russian problem, and now, quite
the Russian problem, and now, quite
have show the people will sak
whether the way that was chosen
have solven the people will sak
whether the way that was chosen
have solven the people will ask
whether the way that was chosen
have solven the people will be
military measures, of spill-over of
the anny men among us have had
the lead; they have set the pace
and established the intellectual
time. This has been that Springtime.
Now the simple and doleful query

time.

Now the simple and doleful query must be raised of whether they have solved the problem for as. It is not, on this level. a question of ideals, or of philosophic right or wrong; it is a quite practical question of sever after the long winter and Spring of bellow and bile.

PROBLEM UNSOLVED

internally. But he has not solved our problem.

For the illegal seizure of Hungary by a tiny minority of Commany by a tiny minority of Command by the service of the servic

RECONSTRUCTION PLAN

HARDER TO PLEASE

Drew Pearson's : Savings & Loan Lobbyist Blocks Housing

THE man who has done more to block the Taft-WagnerEllender housing act and low-cost housing is shrewled sager-beaver lobbyist Morton Bodflah of the U. S. Savings & Loan League.

Loan League.

Able lobbyist Bodfish has issued a confidential bulletin to savings and loan members which the general public isn't supposed to know about. For it gives away one of the secrets as to how he gets legislation introduced in Congress. The confidential bulletin also discloses the fact that Sena-

The confidential bulletin also discloses the fact that Sena-tor John Bricker of Ohio has a personal motive behind some of the bills he has introduced on housing loans.

After telling how Bricker had introduced four bills affecting savings and loan associations, Bodfish goes on in his "confidential bulletin" to reveal this significant fact:

"Senator Bricker, who is director of one of our largest savings and loan institutions, is naturally a staunch believer in the fundamentals of thrift and home-ownership and his introduction of these bills carries with it an unusual interest

Indianapolis. Both bear the interption: "Harry S. Trumah, Indianapolis. Both bear the interption: "Harry S. Trumah, Indianapolis. Both bear the interption: "Harry S. Trumah, Indianapolis. Both bear the interption is proud of you," said Griffiths, as the bust was placed on Trumah desk.

"Thanks." replied the President. "The a Legionnaire in god standing: I attended numerous Legion conventions as winder in the property of the president of the said convention of the said conventio

even tougher, because Teddy wore pince-nez

WHER Paul Griffith, commander of the American Legion, and Charies Keek New York sculptor, called on Harry Truman, to present Keek Sheet bust of the President, Truman, to present Keek Latest bust of the President, Truman, to present Keek Latest bust of the President, Truman, to present Keek Latest bust of the President, Truman, to present Keek Latest bust of the President, Truman to present Keek Latest Latest Cauche Repert of President of USE United States.

Keek reported that the brongel line the White House, as President of USE United States.

Keek reported that the brongel line was a personal gift to "you and your family." It matches another bust the sculptor has made for American Legion backquisters in President of the United States, citizen, stateman, Legion-naire.

White the Senste Labor Committee was considering in public health health bill the other day. Talk 16d off white the Charles of the Charles o