Meat-Axe With A Dull Blade

THE Republicans have more than enough THE Republicans have more than enough votes in the 80th Congress to pass any plees of legislation requiring no more than a simple majority. When, as they often are, they are joined by a majority of the Southern Democrats they can easily over-tide a Presidential veto.

Yet, despite its majorities in both houses and the discipline it has been able to maintain, the GOP has falled so far to accomplish its first objective. With the current easion fast drawing to a close, a compliation by Congressional Quarterly indicates that total Federal expenditures will be reduced very little, if at all, at this sea-

Appropriations Committee Chairman John Taber claims that the GOP is now in John Taber claims that the GOP is now in the Chairman John Taber claims that the GOP is now in the Chairman John Taber and the Chairman John Taber and Taber and

This, however, is by no means the whole picture. If the Senate follows the recom-mendations of its appropriations commit-tee it will restore almost a billion of the

cuts passed by the House. And beyond that is the fact that the Congress has, while it was slashing existing appropriations with one hand, added new ones with the other. Redemption of terminal leave bonds will add \$1.800,000,000 to current cash outlays, foreign relief another 350 million, and aid to Greece and Turkey another 400 million.

As of this reading, it appears that the Government will actually apend more money in this fiscal year than the President originally requested in his budget message. It will do this despite the fact that Republican economy measures aiready threaten to wreck some essential activities, such as the vital soil conservation and food control transmiss. flood control programs.

The Republicans, of course, are not due The Republicans, of course, are not due any particular blame, except, perhaps, for their continued insistence that two and two doesn't really make four. Something like 85 per cent of the total Federal budget now goes to pay for the last war or the next one, and this leaves precious little room within which a meat-axe can be swune.

It will be interesting to see what politi-cal capital the Republicans can make out of the honest Republican effort to reduce Federal spending, or the Democrats out of their failure to do so. But, however loud the arguments may sound, they cannot ob-scure the sad truth that a balanced budget in not yet in sight.

The Weekly That Busted A Trust

THE TRI-COUNTY NEWS serves the remote mountain counties of avery, Mitchell and Yancey, and may be classified as a small weekly newspaper. But it can also be classified as a journalistic David, having taken on an industrial tooliath and left it summer and prostrate. The final chapter that the same prostrate. The final chapter of the mice trust was related, with understandable pride, by Editor 8. T. Henry in a recent edition of his sprightly publication.

tion.

The News began its crusade in the early days of the war, battlag on behalf of the mica mines largely concentrated in the mountain area of North Carolina. The sheet mica produced there is dark-stained, and for many years has been considered inferior to the ruby-colored mica imported from India and widely used in electrical equipment. The great advantage of the imported mica lies in its constant color, which permits accurate grading by eye, and around this circumstance a tight industrial monopoly had been built.

industrial monopoly had been built.

When the war cut down Imports from India, however, and the demands of radio, radar and electronic equipment manufacturers were greatly increased. Overmment scientists began casting about for a dependable method of grading domestic adequate the science of the science of

Editor Henry, however, knew that the device had been perfected and believed it would work. He launched his campaign

from his home base at Spruce Pine and took it finally to Washington, where he had served for many years as a correspondent. He was dismissed as a crackpot, but he kept hammering away until he finally got the attention of the War Investigating Committee then headed by Senator Harry Truman. The Committee launched a full-scale investigation of the War Production Board's operations in the field. Soon thereafter the mica-grading machines went into production. At the end of the war, the Department of Commerce estimated that more than two-thirds of the capacitators used in belephonic, radio radar and other electronic devices for the armed forces had been made from dark-stalined domestic mica. Performance was rated as very saffiafactory.

But that want all As a result of the

But that wasn't all As a result of But that wasn't all As a result of the Truman Committee investigation, the Justice Department brought anti-trust action against the companies that had made up the mica monopoly. Last month Editor Henry was informed that most of the corporations and individuals involved had pleaded guilty and agreed to consent decrees which would include fines and permanent restraining orders. He could conclude, at the end of the last chapter in his remarkable story, that his three primary objectives had been achieved:

Adoption was forced of a scientific method of testing sheet mica.
 Domestic mica was proved to be fully adonted for use in types of devices without which the war could not have been

(3) Control of the mica industry by a few concerns was broken up.

sew concerns was broken up.

This is an accomplishment that would
do credit to any newspaper in the nation. The fact that it can be credited to
a weekly published in a remote mountain
hamlet provides a timely reminder that
circulation is no substitute for a fighting
heart.

The Ban On Union Propaganda

OUR mail regularly brings us a clipsheet O'UR mall regularly brings us a clipsheet issued by the National Association of Manufacturers, generously offering any material contained therein for use without charge. The sheet, which is called Industrial News Service, also goes to every editorial desk in the land, so far as we know. Excerpts from it crop up on editorial pages here and there, credited, if at all, with the unrevealing tag, Industrial News.

unrevealing tag, Industrial News.

This is, of course, a propaganda sheet.
It follows the NAM's line — presenting arguments against high taxes, making fun of bureaucrats, undermining labor unions, etc. It has never occurred to us, however, that the NAM doesn't have the right to send it to us, or to circulate it among the general public if it cares to. Nor would it seem to us improper — and certainly it wouldn't be illegal — if the NAM cared to include in its releases a list of Congressmen whose votes it regarded as inlimited to the NAM's best interests.

Yet these same practices have now been forbidden to labor unions by the Taft-Hartley Act. There is a specific ban on any labor organ's urging its readers to vote for or against any Confressional candidate. This is one of the sections the unions consider unconstitutional and are unions to the section of the confressional candidate. This is one of the sections the unions consider unconstitutional and are unions to the section of the confression of the section of the section of the confression of the section of th

The idea of forbidding any organized pressure group the right to throw its weight around in elections is attractive at first glance. Yet even an elementary sense of justice would elicate that any such ban be universal—that it must apply to employers groups as well as abor unions. And a little additional refrection, it seems to us, leads to the conclusion that a universal—state to the conclusion that a universal scale so the conclusion that a universal.

ban, even if such a thing were practical, would be a clear abridgment of the Con-stitutional right of free speech.

It seems likely, therefore, that the courts will nullify that section of the Taft-Hart-ley Act when the test case finally winds its way through the appeal process. However, there is a bill now before the Senate which would anticipate that, action by simply repealing the new limitations on activities of union publications. The bill should be passed, it seems to us, as evidence of Congressional good faith. That section of the Taft-Hartley Bill is, after all, irrelevant to its main purpose. As long as it remains on the books it will bolster union charges that the whole measure was designed more to punish labor than to improve labor-management relations. It seems likely, therefore, that the courts

Only evidence of insanity in an artist who spent his last years in an asylum was a habit of giving away hand-painted imi-tation money. As no inflation was on at the time, this was regarded as queer.

The bakers of Paris refuse to bake bread if no flour is forthcoming. As for the popu-lace, which has been through this before, it will bravely eat cake if it must.

The Platypus combines mammal and bird with more than a slight suggestion of fish, being the only thing of its kind in all nature, outside of a political platform.

We can even remember when some radio comics who are now accepting plaques for being good were good.

'I Just Bored A Few Little Loopholes In It'



RENT CONTROLS



For The Spastics

OUR warmest thanks for the exceedingly generous publicity that The News has given the Spastic Day Nursery at St Martins Parish House. The pictures by Tone Franklin and his cameramen, the understanding editorial, and the excellent stories by Nancy Brame have caused much sympathy and

interest.

Also, I am sure the big headlines and second front stories run by Tur News last Winter at the time of the Alfraisa Glubs Spatiel Survey of Mecketines of the Alfraisa Glubs Spatiel Survey of Mecketines of the Alfraisa Glubs Spatiel Spat

Buffman.

In one short week without any medical or therapeutic treatment of any kind, these children have shown an amazine improvement. This has been caused by the good food, sunshine reculies the properties of the properties of the properties of the properties. The most traget aspect of the spatial situation is the fact that 70 per cent of these children are bright imentally and with the proper treatment of the properties. The process of the properties of the process of the proces

the program for 100.

We are hoping if enough visitors start talking about the needs of the spastics some organization in Charlotte will back a clinic for them. Educating the public is the most imnovatint first step in cerebral palsy work, and The News has been most liberal with its valuable space in this public service.

-DOROTHY KNOX.

Naughty Things

Editors, THE NEWS

Editors, The News:

IN answer to Julian Barber's open letter in The News of July 11th, I would like to say it tien't a strange thing that ever since I was defeated for Congress on the Republican ticket I have written the American Strange thing analysis that the Democratic Party. It into tarange, it's very the Democratic Party. It into tarange, it's very

makes it all the more mangity because it is the confusion. Now I do want vois taken by articles as I write them and don't take them around to mean what I because the man don't take them around to mean what I stitution. You said I bismed Roosevell for the 3th 00000000 don't be the the 18 1800000000, and I said if you binne Hoover for the depression. On I said if you binne Hoover for the depression of its Administration. Roosevelt immed took pride in reminding the people of the Hoover days and handed the Republicans for everything that went wong but certainly be a supported in the said of the said of

The People's Platform is a mail able to any reader who care to mount it Communications should be less than 300 well be should be less than 300 well by possible, and on only one side spreader if possible, and on only one side spreader in the lebel and obsently will be deleted -otherwise anything goes. Each letter must be signed although, in exceptional case and upon require we will suithhold the writer's name.—Editors, Tus News,

Senator Soaper Says:

WHAT'S become of last year's barroom character who was a fast man with a dollar? Also, the dollar he was fast with?

Because of a honey shortage, working bees are reported to be kicking out the nonproducers with-out waiting to see what Congress finally decides as regards featherbedding

Either a zebra-striped crocodile has been discovered in an almost inaccessible African valley or some live distributor has been through the territory with venetian blinds.

Marquis Childs

A Cure For Vetoes

WASHINOTON
IT SHOULD have surprised no one,
least of all the Republicans in
least reduction would begin Jan.
1981, instead of July 1 of this
1981, instead of July 1 of the
carbon copy
of the earlier version.

which he ence before sent back without his approval. Encept is sufficient to the wealthy terminal to the present the result of the sent to the wealthy taxapare than the wealthy taxapare the man in the low-income brackets. In the wealthy taxapare than the wealthy taxapare the man in the low-income brackets. In the wealthy taxapare than the wealthy taxapare the wealthy taxapare the wealthy taxapare the wealthy taxapare the wealth taxapare the wealth taxapare the wealth taxapare the wealth taxapare that the wealthy taxapare that the wealthy taxapare that the wealthy taxapare than the wealthy taxapare the wealthy taxapare the wealthy taxapare that the wealth taxapare the wealth taxapare that the wealth taxa

his Republican opponent. In drawing the line, the Presi-dent has a definite handicap That is the fact that a number of mem-ission of the president of the state of the fact that a number of mem-found on the opposite side of the found on the opposite side of the found on the opposite side of the Southern Democrats in the Rouse and the Senate On the la-ft that the state of the found of the southern opening the southern open

COMEDY OF ERRORS

before the world.

But the divide that gives rise to this warfare will not be cured by advising the Peradent to put his own views on ice Rerbert Hoover, which was not willing to a substantial the same situation, was not willing to the two branches are divided, ask the two branches are divided, ask in the two branches are divided. The divided is the divided of the branches are divided ask in the divided of the divided ask in the divided of the divi

Samuel Grafton

Discredited Scheme

NEW YORK
THE sexest uses of the twenterts,
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as the computing of the twenterts,
to be cropping up again,
the cropping u something marvelously FATAL FASCINATION

FATAL FASCINATION
The idea seems to exert an aimost large that the same to make the
most large that the same to make
the buffers to them, who have
been solutional in the past, and
ho, usually, deteat the very idea
of foreign relief, are entranced by
the hope that the Marshall plan
can be distorted into a scheme for
giving relutrit to German industry,
and as a result they are smothering the Marshall Plan with repulsive kinner.

aive kiases. In their infatuation with this discredited approach, they do not seem to realize that they are given seem to realize that they are given seem to realize that they are given gaves as of ammunition as we seem gave gave good ammunition as we rever gave good ammunition as we rever gave good ammunition as the could be no extended to the continent into a Soviet sympathia-fer and the continent into a Soviet sympathia-

er Russia's withdrawal from the Marshall Plan was a diplomatic stumble; it hur her Only a scheme for reviving a strong Germany could make it appear that Russia was perhaps right. And so American conservatium turns precisely toward this scheme. blithely it of-fers its back, merrily it asks for

the cosmic kick and it does it all in the fond belief that it is right-ing radicalism.

the cosmic acc and a rose at the form of that it is right-ing radicaling. That it is right-ing radicaling the politicure couldn't have a layer for better assistance than it a layer for he for a strong and the result of the res

Drew Pearson's : Marshall Reminded Of Palestine Policy Merry-Go-Round

George Marshall, have had their first difference on foreign policy. The issue was Palestine.

A short time ago, the President was informed that State
Department officials were ignoring his statements regarding
a Jewish homeland, to some extent steering an opposite
of the control of the control of the control of the control
Members of Congress who conferred with the new Undersecritary of State Robert Lovett and even with Marshall
himself reported back to the While House that they were
told the United States had no policy on Palestine. The
the General Assembly of the United Nations meets in Septemper in order to fix policy.

Meanwhile, President Truman had made a strong statement on Palestine streasing American sympathy for the
tors calling at the State Department were informed that the
United States still had no Palestine policy.

As a result, Truman called in General Marshall incontrol of the Control of the Control
States, he said, constitute American foreign policy and are
to be followed by the State Department.

Decretary Marshall agreed and agleed if the President
of Palestine. Truman thought it was too late for this and
the matter was dropped. There was no personal row and
the two men remain as good friends as ever.

General Decemit Go To Trial

General Doesn't Go To Trial

for drunken driving in Washington on April 17, but has not yet been brought to trial.

General Kisner, however, had powerful friends. They included his superior, Maj. Gen. Gurtis E. Le May. Capt. Beneral Maj. Gen. Gurtis E. Le May. Capt. Schools of the Comparison of Sacretary of the Interior Krugs when the latter took his trans-Pacific trip last Gismon.

trip last Summer.

Following the General's arrest. Captain Raspberry and Mr. Skinner accompanied him to the D. C. corporation counsel's office and pied that the charges be dropped. The corporation counsel, so the sum of the corporation counsel, however, refused. Instead, he ordered a jury trial for April 18. Investment of the corporation counsel, however, refused. Instead, he ordered a jury trial to April 18. Investment of the companies of the control of the corporation of the companies of the corporation of the corporat

very conveniently transferred General Kissner to Germany.

If the General had been an enlisted man, the story might have been different.

might have been different.

Note—The District of Columbia is still awaiting the return of General Kissner to bring him to trial. However, per particular that the still awaiting the return of General Kissner to bring him to trial. However, per particular that the still awaiting t

Death Of An Ambassador

Death of An Ambassator

FinAl chapter in a paradoxial tragedy took plen this week
when the body of the late Greek Andro (Ginon
Diamontopoulos, was flown on Pren' in Trunais new
Ambassator Diamontopoulos died a few hour after a
Conference with Secretary of State Byrnes at the WaldorfAstoria in New York last December. Reports have since
circulated that the Ambassator was shocked over some of

the things his Prime Minister. Constantin Tealdaris, who participated in the contenents. Constantin Tealdaris, who participated in the contenents of the property of the prope

lot of time and work."

The two Greek diplomats left. A few hours later, Ambassador Diamontopoulos, who had appeared to be in the best of health, was dead of healt failure. Premier Tsales, who had then seemed on the verge of a breakdown, is still carrying on as Poreign Minister of Greece.

Merry-Go-Round

Merry-Co-Round
Triant being entertiest, but a friend of Supreme Court
Justice William O. Douglas has been equaling the country
looking over prospects for '48. The Justice William O. Douglas has been equaling the country
looking over prospects for '48. The Justice William O. Ex-Gov. Jimmy Allred may run against Texas
Justice Senator Pappy O'Dougla lext year. Henry Wall
Justice Senator Pappy O'Douglas lext year. Henry Wall
if even speak in Missispippi. Democrate National
Tressurer George Killion, refurmed to his native Glerawood
Tressurer George Killion, refurmed to