

THOMAS L. ROBINSON\_\_

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1948

# Make The Re-Appraisal Now

SOMEWHERE in Charlotte there lives a Sman whose home cost \$27,000. A bank was willing to lend \$30,000 toward its purchase, it is listed on the Mecklenburg County tax books for \$5,100. The man's automobile is assessed for one-third as much as his home.

This is an actual case which shows the

automobile is assessed for one-third as much as his home.

This is an actual case which shows the ridiculous inequalities of real property as-assessments in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. It is not an extreme case; there are thousands like it.

Up for consideration by the City Council and County Commission is a proposal for a scientific survey of all property in the county, and a complete overhauling of the "ax books to correct inequalities such as the one cited above, to catch new property and improvements which have escaped the tax listers, and to bring the general level of property assessments more in line with present day values.

The project will cost a whopping \$400,000.

tax listers, and to bring the general level of property assessments more in line with present day values.

The project will cost a whopping \$400.000. The proponents say it will pay for itself in two or three years by adding property to the books which has so far escaped the form of the proposal is the equalization which the proposal is the equalization which it would bring. We have not had a re-apprisal of property in Mecklenburg since 1938. Net result is that the man who is constructing a home today costing, say, \$12,000 gets listed on the books at about \$50.00. The man who built his home in 1937 for \$12,000 could sell it today for \$20,000 to \$25,000, but he is also on the books at about \$5,000. The man who built his home in 1937 for \$12,000 could sell it today for \$20,000 to \$25,000, but he is also on the books as \$5,000. That is an unjust penalty on the new property owner, which would be remedied by a complete re-appraisal. Second, agreat deal of new construction and improvements to existing property is not even on the books. Work one in the centre of the property and city property on a more equal basis. Many home owners have discovered valuations are considerably lower for homes just outside the city limits, even

The Sky's The Limit

TORACE MICHAEL AINSCOUGH is a thin, wiry man with snowy hair. Most of his 62 years have been spent diggers out from the ground his country. In Petranary of last year, after 21 years with a Wyoming coal company, he got sick and had to quit work.

had to quit work.

Last week Horace Michael Ainscough stood in the executive board room of the United Mine Workers Union, flanked by a battery of newspaper photogriphers and newsreel cameras. Flash bulbs popped and cameras whised aga-John L. Lewis flour-lished his signature on a \$100 check and handed it to Bforace Ainscough. The miner thanked Mr. 'Ewis and, turning to the newsmen, said quietly:

"With the deepest fervor and humility, I say, 'God bless the day John L. Lewis was born.'"

It was a ble day for John L. Lewis Airs-

was born."

It was a big day for John L. Lewis. Ainsecush was the first U. S. coal miner to receive the \$100-a-month pension which Lewis finally won for his men after several pitched battless with the operators. Four substracts applied for the pensions. Their average age is \$63, years, and they have averaged more than 39 years of continuous service each. A third of them began working in the mines before they were twenty years old.

Pensions are not new to American burst.

when the residences and lots are almost identical with those inside the city. Finally, a re-appraisal would boost all property values to a level more consistent with present day values, and would resident with present day values, and would reside they and county. This, perhaps, is the least important reason for the survey. Actually, it doesn't matter a great deal whether the assessments are high, or low, as long as they are equal. Assessments and tax rates work like a see-saw; for any given amount of revenue needed, a higher assessment would bring a lower tax rate, and viceversa.

work like a sec-saw; ror any given amount of revenue needed, a higher assessment would bring a lower tax rate, and vice-The steady ool, so of course, a staggering sum. Forsyth spent only \$50,000 for its equalization program in 1942; Catawba spent \$30,000 in 1942; Catawba spent \$40,000 in 1942; Catawba spent \$

# LEND MY WEIGHT

Joe's Foot In The Door

People's Platform

# What Is A 'True Fact?'

Editors, The News:

I AM writing this letter as part of an investigation
I am making to get information about a fact. If
anyone reading this has any data that would help me
Over the radio, recently, I have heard Drew
Pearson and other commentators, as well as some
Senators and Congressmen, designate something,
heard of a "true fact" but my interest was not
aroused as the reference had been made by hill-olly
folks, and I had considered it to be just a folkiore
strates, But now that the intelligential are speakstrates, But now that the intelligential are speakstrates, But now that the intelligential are speakwhat a "true fact" is.

When is a fact not a fact I if there is a true
When is a fact not a fact I if there is a true

what a 'true fact' is.

When is a fact not a fact? If there is a true fact then there must be an untrue fact. And how is one to distinguish between them? When someone mow says to me. 'That's a fact,' I don't know whether it's a true or untrue fact. I nave consulted all use it's a true or untrue fact. I nave consulted all use that a fact is a fact with the and sought for legal definitions, but sill that I have been able to discover is that a fact is a fact a fact a fact. a truth. No mention is made of an untrue or true fact.

fact.

Of course, I might get the desired information from Drew Pearson, or one of the other authorities, who evidently know what a "time fact" is. I am restrained from doing this by the fact—or should I say true fact—that I live in the rhoney chile," "you are section of the country where the people are considered to the country where the people are relicted to the well-informed Korthern intelleguals, who were over the sins of the Southerners and deplore their ignorance. So, will someone please help me—what is a "true fact." "EWIS AYER SMITH.

# Can't Decide For Another CHARLOTTE

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CHARLOTTE

Editors, Tvz Rwess

MR. H. A. PRIVETT complains that, after reading

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The News man and boy for night on to 40 years,

"The News man and boy for night on to 40 years,

"All the News man and boy for night on to 40 years,

"All the News man and boy for night on to 40 years,

"All the News man and boy for night on the years

Build more hones? Does it help the grocery man sell more groceries, and nay his bilis?"—etc. etc.

Ending this pararraps with an interential negative,

man sell more groceries, and nay his bilis?"—etc. etc.

Ending this pararraps with an interential negative,

maded, like so many other well-meaning church

raused, like so many other well-meaning church

gain made his rude eriott to his Creator, he was

as convincingly as he knew how, What he meant

as, "How the hell should I know where Abel 15th

Mr. Privett, that one man, or a bost, is ment to

Mr. Privett, that one man, or a bost, is ment to

moversight on Christic bart that he failed to say,

"On ver find an order of the control of

that decision for another.

Mr. Privet gives his blessing to the warmongers, so: "America is a great country and I would freely give my life as our ferefathers did to keep englying we my life as our ferefathers did to keep englying modern America spends more money for strong drink than for building God's Kingdom." Mr. Privett should find some consolation in the thought that should find some consolation in the thought that should find any one consolation in the thought bear than the strong first and the building of God's Kingdom. It throughly agree with him when he says, "America, I fear, is being weighed in the balance and found wantine." Humor The New's In this one little found wantine." Humor The New's In this one little here also to get them to agree with me on.

John State Stat

#### Only Hope Of The South

Editors. The News:

WITH apologies for extending the controversy regarding Mr. Joe Blythe and the National Democrate Party, I should like to reply to the letter of Mr. P. L. Lindsey of Charlotte in The News of the 8th.

sue on. Lindsey has gone afar from the question raised in my previous letter asking why the public was not told of Mr. Bivtne's retusal to permit the enforcement of Mr. McGrath's order for non-segregation in the national headquarters of their alling party.

enforcement of Mr. McGrath's order for incressergation in the national headquarters of their ailing
party.

In the latter had Mr. Lindere displayed less of
the entolination mentioned by him, he may have
been more locical. I delike personalities. The Kenheady and like thinkers are not of the running
kind, but they do have a contempt and aversion
As Mr. Linders says, there is no finer quality
than lovally. In the treatment of the South it is
lamentable that the National Turman Party has
defined the state of the south of the south

#### Marquis Childs

# No Middle Way

As the months have passed since Henry Wallace amounced the third-party tletch, the real objective of the managers of the third-party letch, the real objective of the managers of the third-party letch, the real objective of the managers of the third-party movement has become all too clear, the control of the managers of the third-party movement has become all too clear, the control of the party movement has become all too clear, the control of the party movement has been all too clear, the control of the party movement bent and extreme Right.

The party wall wallace do not to the form the wallace insides way of compromise. The men and women behind wallace do not the form the wallace insides way of compromise. The men and women the party of the party of the party wall the telephone of the faith that the system under which we let we way the party of the

# Joseph & Stewart Alsop

# **Hope And Alarm**

WASHINGTON
Are the sole objects of Reputs
Presently Republican Senatorahige
in Woming, West Virginia, Minure
Presently Republican Senatorahige
in Woming, West Virginia, Minure
Illinois are all reported in danger
from Democrati. If only four of
these Senatorahige change hands,
senatorahige c

the same.

\*\*\*SERPS\*\* MAY RISE

No one has the slightest doubt
hat Dewey will carry Illinois, for
example, but now that the Ways
hat have the same to be a
state ticket, there really seems to
be a ramoté possibility that a pearstate ticket, there really seems to
be a ramoté possibility that a pearcormicke finitions serfs will give the
Senatorable to Paul Douglas
increaded d'arocko. The trend is being
stead of Brooks. The trend is being
the same trends of Brooks.

The safviers Dewey has gathered

The advisors Dewey has gathered

# Drew Pearson's Big GOP Blow-Up Simmers In Michigan

Michigan's ehlef 'GOP leader, who was supposed to drum up a crowd for Stassen, is Arthur, Summerfield, one of the largest Chevrolet dealers, in the world. Summerfield helped largest chevrolet dealers, in the world. Summerfield helped probably was not the reason he failed to drum up a crowd last week.

last week.

It is the summer to drum up a crowd last week.

It is the summer field is now under truesdigation by Royderell Grahed slury and has become one of the most controversal figures in Republican politics. GOP Michigan leaders have pooh-poohed this probe, but nevertheless, the average Michigan voter has an uneasy hunch that sometimes of the summer figures of the summer figures. The summer figures is the summer figures and the summer figures are summer figures. It was a summer figures and the summer figures are summer figures. It was a first figure summer figures and the summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures is the summer figures and the summer figures are summer figures. It was a summer figures and the summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures and the summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures and the summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures and the summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures and the summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures and the summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures and the summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures and the summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures are summer figures and the summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures are summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures are summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures are summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figures are summer figures are summer figures. The summer figures are summer figu

#### General Motors Men Involved

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MEANWHILE, Iris columbias has secured photostate of
the mean of the control of the

in nongrand "Pord Motor Co. H. Lincoln."

A comparison of this check and others signed by Otto Graff to the Pord Motor Co. show that the endorsement is tained an admission from Mr. Graff that the \$500 went and to Pord but the GOP campaign chest. The Pord Motor Co never endorsed the check, never saw the check, and was not involved.

# How GOP Won Congress

How GOP Won Congress
THEROUOM this and other means, Mishigan Republicans
I raised a huge campaign cheet in the Congressional campaign of 1946. It is injecteding to find this was the
jear which won GOP combol of Congress.

One of the most active GOP money-ratific coinfulfices
are built. Mainsenings of this committee were GOP National
Committeeman Arthur Summerfield, W. P. Husiseader, generral sales manager, for Pluck who was a GOP delegate to
the Philadelphia Convention; plus Harry Gault, a General
Motors lavyer.

the mind didnist convention; plus Harry Gaull, a General Motors layer, and thought the second of the

if the Justice Dept. has the courage to dig into them.

#### More Housing Frauds

### Russian Arms To Palestine

Russian Arps To Palestine

FUVIERE was little talk about Palestine when Fresident Tru
I man met with leaders of the Sweish yir veterang the
hore day. Nitheral Commander Julius Rich of Officage
and his ascellates were chiefly interested in promoting
and his ascellates were chiefly interested in promoting
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The Breadent, however, such stressed the responsibility
sweish and Arth force. Folitting to a word globe in his
office, he remarked:

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# cause it was won by force at tremendous coat to the American public, and will be financed by a royalty of 20 cents on each ton of coal mined, a cost which again will be borned by the American public in the form of a higher price to the consumer. The fear which gnaws most insistently at the average U. S. worker, whether he uses his hands or his brains to make a living, is lack of accurity, the absence of a labor are ended he will not have to depend on the charity of his relatives or a solde from his Government. He meets his day-to-day necessities as he comes to them—food, clothing, shelter, medical care, recreation. But always he thinks of the years that lie ahead, when his productive capacity will begin to fail off, when finally he is unable, because of age or ill health, to earn his keep, Oive a main a feeling of happy, productive worker, and a contented American citizen for whom no foreign "ism" can have any appeal. Lewis has given his miners more security than they've ever had before, and more security than most American workers have. And therein lies the dangerous defect of the Lewis has pan-1 openet the way for small groups to band togginer and, by black/lack others have, Then, too, as long as coal is a basic industry and is needed 30 depperhictly in our scheme of things, there is no reason why Lewis cannot eventually up his pension to \$300, or 500, or \$10,00 or whatever figure he might set, and let the consumers foot the bill. Pensions are not new to American busi-ness. There are scores of plans and sys-ems, and they take a hundred different orms. The miners' pension plan, however, s the newest, and the most significant be-A Lesson From France

In the Christian Science Monftor the

IN THE Christian Scleince Monitor the
other day we read a pice about French
farmers and their reaction to the recurring
political crises in Frame. It was pointed
out that the French shrug is still standard
equipment outside of Paris.
"50 what?" the French ask politely when
they are told that another Government has
fallen. They are more concerned with their
livestock or with the prospects of a good
wine season than with a stable government.

When you realize that France is predom-When you realize that France is predominantly an agricultural nation, that farmers are the backbone of the nation this "so what" attitude looms more important. And, in a way, it explains the lack of stability in the French Government.

France is, nominally, a democracy: in a democracy the Government is the people of the Government in the Covernment can then certainly no government can exist.

White well as the stability of our own cause. We cannot imagine an American farmer reacting casually to the announcement that his Government was in turmoil, that there was no leadership in Washington. Yet the French farmer accepts without hesitation or concern the prospect of a pattern that is rapidly shaping up in Frence. The pattern would consist of first,

a lexteriess nation, second, a nation pulled back into shape by a dictator or a semi-dictator in the De Gaulle mould, and thin a revolution by the French people which would depose the dictator and make of the nation what it was when the pattern efart-ed: leaderless.

eci: leaderless.

This is the price France will pay.
Of course, to us it seems unthinkable
that a country could accept such a prospect circularly. Since 1774 when our interest
in government was necessarily intense we
have always been conterened with who runs
the nation and how he runs it: Yet a mere
ten years of apathy on our part soild undo
the accomplishments of almost two centuries.

The turmoil in the French Government mist serve as a warning to us. Because the French have become cynical about affairs of state and more concerned with cows than with kedners, their andton now faces either continues indecision bg "center" politicians or dietatorship by De Gadilisté or Communists.

Only alertness has kept us and will keep us from such a fate.

Even more mysterious than the way of a man with a maid is how you get ten years older than the girls who were your same age in school. = \*\*arkansos Gazetta.