FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1949

## PROGRESS WITHIN OUR MEANS

WHILE the report of the Advisory Budget Commission did not follow the recommendations of Governor Scott to the letter, it reflected the willingness of the Commission to go along with him as far as possible within the limitations of the State's present revenue system.

The Commission did not:

1. Provide any more money for the Scott.

The Commission did not:

1. Provide any more money for the Scott rural road program than the highway fund will normally take in:

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choolhouses.

Governor Scott had asked for all of less things except the last. On that queston, he had merely recommended that the egislature appoint a Commission to study

Legislature appoint a Commission to study the question.

The fact that the Commission did not concur on the other four does not, however, indicate any fundamental disagreement, but rather that:

1. A \$480,000,000 rural road program is obviously beyond the State's present means, and the state of the stat

the General Assembly.
Indeed, the Commission's report indicated agreement with Governor Scott on the pressing need of expanding North Carolina's facilities and services to the very limit of our present resources. Missing was the ultra-cautious husbanding of reserves which characterized the Cherry administration. The Commission recommended spending virtually every penny of the re-serve and expected income except the \$33,-

000,000 "cushion" fund set up after the war as insurance against a decrease in revenue, a wise decision which Governor Scott had previously approved.

Tar Heels who believe in progress will be encouraged by a study of the budget recommendations. The \$167,921,000 for public schools is an increase of \$38,000,000 over the present beinnium. Higher institutions will get \$32,000,000, a boost of \$8,000,000. Charitable and correctional institutions will get \$32,000,000, a boost of \$8,000,000. Charitable and correctional institutions will get \$32,000,000, a boost of \$8,000,000. The school of \$6,000,000. The school of \$6,000,000 recommended for old age assistance and aid to dependent children will grow to \$45,000,000 when loc al and Federal matching grants are added. The \$31,800,234 recommended for cold age assistance and aid to dependent children will grow to \$45,000,000 when loc al and Indeed and the school of the school teachers, who have been wall-school will be school teachers, who have been wall-school teache

### PENALTY OF BIRTH

IT IS virtually certain that the State of North Carolina will not venture into the field of building schoolhouses during the next blennium, now that the Advisory Budget Commission has recommended against such a departure from the present

against such a departure from the present system. But the question, brought up 59 the State Education Commission report, is a live one, and more will be heard from it in the future. An editorial feature on this page by Tom Fesperman discusses the proposal in detail. The basic principle underlying North Carolina's edgeation system is that every child, no matter his race or place of residence, shall have equal minimum educational opportunity. To accomplish this, the State carries 50 per cent of the operating expenses of the school program in rich counties and poor counties alike. As far as the State contribution goés, there is complete equality.

countes ann poor countes anne. A irr as the State contribution gois, there is com-plete equality.

But the operating expenses are just a part of the picture. The system leaves it up to the counties to provide the school buildings and facilities which the children was. And here, the Commission fou in d, there are wide differences between the rich counties and the poor counties which defeat the basic principle of equality of emportunity.

epportunity.

In Currituck County, for instance, the 1944 average investment in school plants for white children was \$495.15. At the other extreme was Cherokee County which had an average investment of only \$40.53

per white child.

Investment in physical facilities for Negro children is much lower—from a top of \$187.15 per child in Stanly County to the 1949 MARCH OF DIMES

amazingly low figure of only \$2.13 per child in Gates County.

Reflecting that investment, you will find plants ranging from elaborate, modern brick and steel buildings, complete with laboratories, gymnasium, auditorium, muster rooms, catelerias, fluoressent lighting der rooms, catelerias, fluoressent lighting dark beinessent between the country of the country of

and the like to tumble-down shacks and dark basements which ought to be condemned.

Furthermore, this difference in facilities was reflected in the pupils' record of achievement, the Commission ground, with white children exceeding Negroes, and city the condemned of the commission regular than the State take over the responsibility of building school plants to the tune of \$150,000,000 in the next ten years, a figure which might well increase considerably before all buildings could be brought up to par. A minority report, however, opposed this new State responsibility as impossible without a complete change in the reyenus systems of the State and counties. It sugresses to the state and the sugresses are permanent loan fund for couties who want to build new school plants.

Neither proposal found favor with the Advisory Budget Commission. Lacking any real momentum, perhaps because the whole effair is yet so little understood by the people of the state, the State antivito the school building business will be the people of the state, the State and the state county into the school building business will be the people of the state, the State and the state county into the school building business will be seven that we will not have real equality of ever that we will not have real equality of ever that we will not have real equality of

deferred indefinitely.

It is becoming increasingly obvious, however, that we will not have real equality of opportunity in North Carolina until a child is no longer penalized because he lives in a poor county or because he is a Negro. y. reasingly obvious, how-

# has already cost the Foundation and its member chapters upwards of \$17,000,000. The money must be raised to continue the post-epidemic treatment of polio victims, and to replete exhausted reserves.

A CHARLOTTE man, father of three small children, summed up his attitude toward the 1949 March of Dimes campaign the other day:
"Some of my frends don't like the way the National Foundation is running the campaign. They disapprove of grivery of contribute some of the showmanship and promotion. They think the system of setting goals is all wrong. Some of them have even said they things, sing to contribute because of these things, sing to contribute because of these things, sing to contribute because of these things. and to replete exhausted reserves.

Those of us who sweated out last year's epidemic are fully aware that every victim in Mecklenburg County, no matter his age, financial circumstance, or color, received quick, expert attention, with no questions asked and no strings attached. Some parents able to do so made contributions toward the expense of treating their children. But they were not required to do so. where come to contribute because of these things.

"Well, I don't know much about it. But least Summer, when we were all so worried the second of the second

In view of that record, the people of this county and this state will be in character if they respond unstintingly to the March of Dimes appeal.

A wire service story makes quite a point of the fact that the American marriage rate dropped during this leap year when it should have risen. The explanation is simple. The girls didn't wait for leap year—they've been leaping right on since the last leap year. — Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont.

"Local Cucumbers Reach Connecticut"—
News-Press headline. Let's see California
grow any bigger than that. — Fort Myers
(Fla.) News-Press.



## **Better School Buildings Needed**

Better Joine District State of the Action Assembly in the hurly-burly of the General Assembly in opening session and plans for the Governor's in-auguration hast week, Rep. John Umstead of Orange auguration hast week, Rep. John Umstead of Orange auguration hast week, Rep. John Umstead of Orange Carlotte and Carlotte and Carlotte All Carlotte

### Present Plants Inadequate

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What's the matter with our present school plants?

A tragic plenty, the Commission says. It says that has 840 white and 100 Negro school building the state has 840 white and 100 Negro school building. The state has 840 white and 100 Negro school building common counties, where some new school plants are now abuilding, may find these figures hard to digest, but rich, expanding communities and says the less wealthy counties have buildings that shouldn't rightly because the state of the state of

## How It Happened

which means that it's up to the County to construct the buildings and buy the equipment.

An experiment of the county of the cou

Alternate Plan Suggested
THE minority group on the Commission itself, in its
report or alternate plan, says it would be
report or alternate plan, says it would be
report or alternate plan, says it would be
Raielish for school buildings.
This well established by the North Carolina Constitution ... that the county commissioners of each
structured to provide the school buildings in each
district ...? the minority group says.
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district ... the minority group says.
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district ... the minority group says the second is the soto believe and annually appropriates 66 to 70 per cent
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## Program Jeopardized

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One Package Or Two?

James Marlow

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Some of the Democratic leaders
who handle labor affairs in Congress have said they want the
whole job of changing labor law
and making amendments wrapped
and making amendments wrapped

Joseph Alsop

## The Dutch Uncle

PARIS
TOR any American in his sense,
It is brusquely sobering to discover the powerful-influence of Washpowerful-influence of Washman and the property of the private
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Europe. A year and a haif ago only
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## Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

## Senator Checks High Cost Of Uniforms

New York's ritatest designers, formerly associated with her. Senator Langer points out that a at mise when the Navy is making the Waves a permanent part of the demod forces, it supplies free uniforms to enlitted men, but; requires the Waves to buy their clothing out of a measer £26 allowing uniforms to happened to be executed by Matibocher, whose specialty is selling gowns to the Duchess of Windoer and other ladies along Park Avenue, Matibocher (real name Lou Main Bocher) was formerly editor of Vogue Magazine when Josephine Gyericals, asa Yogue's when Josephine Gyericals, asa Yogue's when Josephine Gyericals, asa Yogue's

filter, the war Mainbocher was the rave designer of ut with the outbreak of war be returned to that the third war between the war was the man of the war the war uniform. Inquiry at the Navy reveals that er was not pail for his services, and that the Navy raves to the fact that Mainbocher arrates, in view of the fact that Mainbocher self-seese at 8500 up. however, does not help a girl with only \$354 to however, does not help a girl with only \$354 to

by Wave Commandant Capt. W. Underwood, now reitred, she remarked ruefully: "Nothing is furnished but the money, and not too much of that."

Senator Langer contends that there is no reason why enlisted women should be discriminated against, and that saike the sailors and soldiers get free uniforms, Waves should be treated likewise.

## Mrs. Forrestal's Jewelry Deals

Mrs. Forrestal's Jewelry Deals
TWE Senstor's interest also focuses attention upon other
I designing activities of the wife of the Secretary of Defrene. The versaties and charming Mrs. Forrestal, in addition
and the second of the second of the second of the second selection.
Some years ago she made an arrangement with Paul
Paio, fashionable New York jeweler, to give her a 30-30 cut
Paio, fashionable New York jeweler, to give her a 30-30 cut
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Paio, fashionable New York jeweler, to give her a 30-30 cut
Paio, fashionable New York jeweler, to give her self. The profit with her.
Forestal file at profit with her.
Jordan Mrs. Forestal file at its against Paio for the return
of thirdeen pieces of jewelry she had given him. She
stimped a lose of 37-32.

## Forrestal Jewel Holdup

TOTIES IN JEWEN I TOIGUP

TUIIS loss, incidentally, came on top of an earlier \$48,000

A loss when Mrs. Forrestal, returning home at 2:10 A. Mr.

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the fact that, after hearing the police alarm, Forrestal alipped out the back entrance, vaulied the rear fence, ran down an alley, and caught a taxt to his club where he spent the remainder of the night.

New York newspapers also described how his wife went to the police station to look over the rogues' gallery and face the lineup without her husband.

## GOP Prepares For Next Election

GOP Prepares For Next Election

Invites of the Secret Republican Conference: Senator

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Amount Senator of Maine urged GOP collegues to start

campaigning now for 1805. Though it is customary for the

Senatorial Campaign Committee to lie dormant for six

without pause for the two-year stretch sheed.

Senator Irving Ives of New York suggested it was more

important for the Republicans has to worry about making a

record in the present Congress. He urged that they start

record in the present Congress. He urged that they start

infilibilisters. The Republicans had promited to make this the

first order of business in January, anyway, he reminded

them.