TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1949

### PETITION TO THE LEGISLATURE

reconsidered in the light of practical experience.
Drys, alsa, are Drys, and Wets are Wets, and for the most part both of them are 100-proof against conversion.
Tet, at the reconstruction of the series of the ser

twelve months.

The quantity sold under the Bootlegger system too must have been alarming, though by the nature of the transaction it; was not ascertainable. In any case, no one who ever wanted liquor had to go without it, even when it was dead against the law to buy it and sell it. But the stuff cost more, and you had to traffic with crooks to more, and you had to traffic with crool get it, enriching them in the process.

WHEN Mecklenburg held its local-option election in 1947, this newspaper supported liquor stores on the strength of three primary convictions:

1. That the stores would eliminate the

1. That the stores would eliminate the blg-time bootingers by depriving them of the gains that made them a powerful and a corrugitive influence in the community.

2. That the revenue from the legal sale of liquor would be exceedingly useful.

3. That there would be little if any the revenue in drinking, and might even be less. More than a year's operation of the stores has borne out our reasons I and 2. The blg-time bootlegger is a thing of the past. Even the small fry have led a miserable life under the vigilance of ABC law-enforcement.

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enforcements
too, revenue that formerly
went into the pockets of a crowd of disreputable me, nigh-gangster, has been
all that was expected. The Mecklenburg
ABC stores' net profit in their first twelve
months was \$1,827,900. Over and above
that amount the State of North Carolina
collected \$83,000 and the Federal Treasury
\$5,141,000 in taxes; \$80,000 was et aside for

ANONE who addresses himself to that weining question, what to do about liquor, might as well recognize at the start that these who already agree with him. Prohibition in North Carolina isn't a subject that may be discussed reasonably or reconsidered in the light of practical experience. Drys, alsa, are Drys, and Weis are Weis, Drys, alsa, are Drys, and weis are weight and the properties of the drys of the properties of the drys of the properties of the properti

THUS there was a substantial increase in arrests for drunkenness during the first full year of the ABC stores over the last full year under the Bootleger system. Some part of this increase was to have been expected. Estimates of the city's population show a five per cent increase between the two years. Also, the police will tell you that there has been better enforcement of the law against public drunkenness, for two reasons: (1) the City Police Department was expanded to 172 men in 1948 as against 135, in 1946, and (2) eight special ABC enforcement officers have concerned themselves with drunks as well as with bootleggers.

concerned themselves with drunks as well as with bootingers.
But the fact of an increase in arrest for drunkenness does not offset the wholesome influence in other respects that the ABO stores have exerted. Drunkenness reflects the morality of individuals. Bootlegging as we knew it in Mcklehourg County, and will surely know it again if the stores are closed, undermined the morality of the whole community and weakened its institutions.

closed, undermined the morality of the whole community and weakened its institutions.

We believe it is axiomatic that a deterioration in community morality can not have a height effect upon individual morality. Unworkable laws are included in the control of the sale of laws are law in the control of the sale of liquor plus strict law-enforcement will, in time, produce an improvement in drinking habits.

In any case, the good effects of the control experiment seem at this early stage to have greatly exceeded the leave that if Mecklenburg County had to choose again it would restfirm its choice of the ABC system by an even larger preponderance than the 18.3771.2350 whee in the 19.470 election. In this view of the situation, a statewide referendum and its certain result of a return to the Bootlegger system would be a rare disserted to Mecklenburg County. We have no illusional tenting precisely the seconds except by the refusal of the Legislature to play into their hands. We trust that the Legislature, in determining its position, will not override the decided preference of this and the other ABC counfies.

### SECOND DEGREE CITIZENS

IF A NEORO kills a white man in the and sure; if a white man in the and sure; if a white man kills a Negro, he may or may not be punished in accordance with the sweetity of the crime. But if a Negro kills another Negro, the chances are good that he will get off with a very light sentence, far less severe than the nature of the crime would demand.

It happens every day, in all the courts of the South. White judges and predominantly white juries simply won't take seriously crimes involving members of the Negro race.

riously crimes involving memoers of the Negro Tace.

Last week in Harnett County, Judge Clawson Williams eloquently blew his top over the failure of a white jury to return a first degree verdiet against Tay McNettle Charged with murdering his the control of the

Turning to the jurors, Judge Williams

"If this is not first degree murder, then

NS

I never saw a case of it. You have condoned the horrible manner in which the Negro tortured and beat his wife to death with a fire poker, a stick, an axe, and a shotgun . . . You failed to support the law . . Your failure to do your aworn duty is a matter between you and your God." Judge Williams did try to rectify the damage somewhat. He ordered the court clerk to write into the judgment. "Parole, or pardon is never recommended," and told the prisoner, "You need never make an application for parole or pardon while I'm living. You shall always until death wear felon's stripes and work at hard labor. McMelli was reported as being "happy and jubiant" at escaping death, accumentation of the condition of the condition of the last stood ownth, beating her with various interest of the condition o

die. It was a thoroughly victous and re-prehensible crime.

As long as Negroes can kill and maim one another at will, we will continue to have disregard for law and order and a resulting high crime rate. The civil rights agitators who are so concerned over proagitators who are so concerned over pro-tecting the Negro from the white mar might well direct some of their efforts to-ward protecting the Negro against mem-bers of his own race.

#### THE UNLEARNED NATURALIST

WERE somewhat disturbed last rough bark of some kind of tree or other. And who cares whether the clouds that a man who makes his living writing nature editorials for a great number of newspapers—inclinding The Wall Street Journal, the New Tork Times and others.

mal, the New York Times and others.

He gave the impression that it takes an expert to write about nature, that if you don't know the difference between suma and trailing arbutus you should keep your mouth abut. That might be our own narrow interpretation, but that's the way we

mouth shut. That might be our own mar-row interpretation, but that's the way we got it.

Now this side of the page has often printed small articles about the great out-doors; and, tell you the truth, we would be hard pressed to distinguish between a daisy and a daffodil. But, on certain occa-sions, our heart joins that of the poet in "Beaping up" when we discover a field of either of them.

And when we walk through a patch of

either of them.

And when we walk through a patch of woods we do not know what dry leaves our feet crush, but we like the sound of it. And we like the odor that comes from the think,

Is it necessary to be able to emit a geo-logical discourse on the history of the flat, white rocks over which the clear stream

runs?

The grass is green and sweet in Spring, crisp and tan in autumn and who cares why? Is the bird's call less melodious because we cannot answer in kind?

Nuts! Nature is like womankind — the less you know about it the better.

The trouble with some people who are good is the fact that they are so infernally good that at times they're mean as hell.—

Lamar (Mo.) Democrat.

How long the business index and the stock market can keep on going in opposite directions without meeting each other we don't know. — Greensboro (N. C.) Daily News.



Congressional Quarterly

## The Congress At Work

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S request Jan. 10 for \$413 Pt. 10 Million for national defense, international affairs, veter discount of the property of the

extravagant.

Included in the requests were \$2.5 billion to be spent for highways, education, school lunches, unemployment compensation and other purposes in the states.

ployment compensation and other purposes in the state. \*\*Transation to loc Congrain is would be racessary that the same revenue—including \$8 billion in corporate and personal income taxes—to pay for his program, set adde enough to reduce the debt and taxe care of any North Atlantic contingencies.

On Priday, Jan 18, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee voice unanimously to recommend the confirmation of Dean Acheon as Secretary of State. He is a former Undersceredary on the Confirmation of Dean Acheon as Secretary of State, He as former Undersceredary on the Confirmation of Dean Acheon as Secretary of State, He as former Undersceredary Date: On denset his law firm had infrisenced State Dept. approval of a 50 million lean to the Poblis Overnment, controlled affirmed his friendship for Alger Hiss, who, he said, was never his assistant, and who is under a peak of the control of the Confirmation of the Confirmation

"appeasing" Russia.
Edward R. Stettinius Jr., former Secretary of
State, testified in Acheson's behalf in the first public
hearing in history by the Foreign Relations group
over the appointment of a Secretary of State.

RENT CONTROL

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If the new Majority Whije, Sen. Myers, has his way, rent control will be extended 27 months beyond the majority whije. Sen. Myers, has his way, rent control will be extended 27 months beyond the majority of the majority of the majority of the stream, and for putting apartment hotels back with the majority of the majority rent raises. The legislation would covering would not provide the majority rent raises. The legislation would not sent the majority of the ma PAY BAISE FOR THE PRESIDENT.

PAY EAUSE FOR THE PRESIDENT .

President Truman's salary will be raised to \$100.
000 if the House approves the measure the Senate
passed 68-9 Jánuary 13. In addition, he would get
\$50,000 in tax-free expense money in addition to the
\$40,000 he niow has.

The bill—first the Senate has passed in the Sist Congress—also would give the Vice-President and the Speaker of the House raises of \$10,000 yearly. They now receive \$20,000. They also would get tax-free expense allowances of \$10,000.

Senators Broughton and Hoey of North Carolina voted for the raises.

REORGANIZING THE GOVERNMENT REGRGANIZNO THE GOVERNMENT
Herbett Hover, chairman of the Commission on
Organization of the Executive Brazish of the Government,
unged Convernment. He asked Congress to
revire—but with fewer restrictions——the Reorganization Act of 1993. The act died March 31.

The former Republican President said the Govermment must be organized to give it the simple atvacture, unified purpose and delineation of authority
which he askit the Constitution intended it to here.

which he said the Constitution intended it to nave.

BILLS INTRODUCED

A total of 629 bills and resolutions were introduced in the Senate (2547 and House (375) up to Priday, Jan. 14. This brings to 1229 the number dropped into the hoppers since Congress opened Jan. 1 (Senate 564, House, 1,865).

### Quote, Unquote

Those were tile good old and non-irritating days when you could buy an article marked down to \$198, and not find, a minute later, that including tax, it had been marked up again to \$2.04. —Jackson (Miss.) Daily News.

An Arkansas man claims that he never saw an automobile—and, come to think of it, he's in no worse fix than a lot of Mississippians who have to be hauled to our hospitals.—West Point (Miss.) Daily Times Leader.

### Joseph Alsop

## The Levers Of Power

The Levers

PARTS

THE changed situation in EuTrope is summed up in the
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hanged situation was liquidated
when the French and Italian Govminist selares of power on the
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when the French and Italian Govran policy of timmess toward Russas,
explied their Communiat minformation of timmess toward Russas,
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formation of the Comminism and
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marks the extent of their decline from their post-war peak of strend!

from their post-war peak of strend!

process must also be noted. At the end of the war, besides entering the process must also be noted. At the end of the war, besides entering the end of the war, besides entering the end of the end of the war, besides many important local levers of power within the complex machinery of munitate heavily infilirated the mobile batalians or "security companies" of the national police. They of the end of their men as commissioners of the present have been as commissioners of the part of the managed to name 60° of their men as commissioners of the part of the market of the commissioners of the part of the end of the present had the unions. And in even succeeded in capturing the present had the present had the unions. And in even succeeded in capturing the analysis of the present had the present the present

nancial instability (to which of course the Communists contributes and above all, the danger of the general sense of insecurity deriving from fear of war. If this latter danger is removed, a new scene may be expected to open in Europe. But this can only be achieved by the creation of solid strength in the West, and especially in the United

James Marlow

## Politburo---What, Why

THE Politburo. You hear it men-tioned often. But what is it? It's the real boss of Russia. It's made up of Joseph Stalin and thirteen other top Russian Communists. Its full name is the Political Bureau.

Political Bureau.

War? Peace? A big veto in the
United Nations? A new five-year
plan for Russia? Atomic bombs?
The Politburo makes the big decisions.

and thirteen other top Russian communists. Its full man is the Political Buresu. He political Buresu. He political Russian Covernment of the Russian Covernment of the Russian Covernment of the Russian Covernment Party Hoof kept Jobs in the Russian people are members of the Russian Popule are members of the Russian Covernment Party, How, then, car the Political Russian Party Hoof kept Jobs in the Russian Party Hoof kept Jobs in the Party Hoof Russian Communist Party, Russian Covernment the Political Russian Covernment Russian Covernment Russian Ru

buro: Sialin and the thirteen other top Communists, carefully chosen, running the party. What follows will show how the Politburo also runs the Govern-What follows will show how the Polithuro also runs the Government.

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) is made up of sixteen republics, (Soviet means council).

### Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

# Circus Fan Bosses Big Inaugural Show

AS THE clans begin to gather in Washington, D. C., it's A generally conceded that the inauguration of Harry Truman will surpase even that of Andrew Jackson as the greatest show in history.

Perhaps that is because Melvin, Hidderth, chairman of the history of the history.

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### Battery D Celebrates

DOTTETY D CRIEDITIES

(ECOND only to the days in 1918 when they wheeled their French 78s into action in the Yospes Mountains, this week is the most, momentous in history for Battery D 193th Field Artillery. Sath Division. This week Battery of will march at the the action of the West Battery of the Hittle acquisit who commanded it in World War II.

Just before that parade there will be a reunion breakfast on Missouri ham attended by Caps, Harry Truman. There have been other reunion of Battery D, and Caps.

Truman is hoping that this one won't be anything like the one back in 1911.

That was just large years after the end of the war and the street of the street of the war and the street of the street o

and some more.

Finally someone picked up a plate, sailed it across the room. Then 'Dizzy Battery D' went on a rampage.

Some two hours and 400 plates later, the reminon ended.

Next day the Elks Club totaled the damages and presented a bill for silks to the president of the Battery D Association.

That was the biggest bill for chinaware Harry Truman end that the contract of the Club of the contract of the Club of the contract of the Club of the

a bill for \$158 to 10e pt.

That was the biggest bill for chinaware Harry Truman ever had to may ever had to may ever had to may be some the biggest bill to the NOTE—Three weeks ago in Kanasa City, Truman, who NOTE—Three weeks ago in Kanasa City, Truman, who is the contrades-in-arms: "I'll be glad to see you all in Washington, but I don't look forward to buying another \$158 worth of broken dishes."

### Capt. Truman Under Fire

Capt. Truman Under Fire

Wardliery captain going into action for the first time bran across Judge Bennet Clark, former Senator from Missouri, and son of the famed Speaker Champ Clark. Clark Missouri, and son of the famed Speaker Champ Clark. Clark with the rank of leutenant colored in the 6th Missouri Infantry.

Clark with the rank of leutenant colored in the 6th Missouri Infantry.

French railroad station behind the Vosges front in '40 and 8' boccars, and was in the process of unloading when, sud-denly, it, Col. Clark turned to Truman. Pointing dramatically to a clede horse bing near the railroad station, he communication of the color of the colo

#### J. Edgar Hoover's Pay

J. Edgar Hoover's Pay

ERATOR Herbert O'Conor of Maryland, Democratic sponsor of the Government pay-rate bill, clied G-man J.
Edear Hower in an attale for American Magazine as one
public servant who then the control of the control of the control

This emission caused a flare-up behind closed door

when Vermout's Senator Rahyl Patiented Leiber with

This emission caused a flare-up behind closed door

when Vermout's Senator Rahyl Patiented Leiber with

Senator Styler Bridges of New Hampahire asked why the

PBI Director had not been included in the bill.

We had to draw the line scopewing's explained Plan
TW. We had to draw the line scopewing's explained Plan-

