THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1949

FULL USE OF PARKING SPACE

THE COUNCIL'S plan to employ a squad of women to check parking meter violations is an interesting development in the City's effort to meet a problem that seems to grow daily.

Few civic problems have received so much attention as that of parking space. The Council, Planning Board, traffic engineer, Police Dept. traffic experts and various other interested groups have had a hand in trying to find a solution. Trying to determine some method whereby many cars could be taken care of in space sufficient for one.

Mr. Hoose has done an intelligent job in utilizing curb space and has meters all over the place. And they help. But Mr. Dillard's parking committee found that violation of the time limits at so many of the meters was defeating the purpose for which they were installed.

The Dillard committee, after going into the matter thoroughly, recommended the employment of women to check the meters regularly in an effort to stop the violations. The purpose of the plan is the fullest utilization of such on-street parking space as we have for the greatest good of the largest number.

In making the committee's recommendations, Mr. Dillard told the Council that it was imperative that full and complete use be made of existing parking facilities before an accurate overall picture of all parking facilities, including off-street provisions can be made.

The Council quickly gave informal approval and is expected to authorize the employment of a force of women for the duty immediately. As was pointed out during the Council's discussion this will serve a double purpose. It will permit a close check of the parking meter violations and release members of the regular police organization for the more important duty of enforcing traffic and other laws.

The plan has been tried elsewhere and reports from Raleigh indicate that it has been quite successful there. Pittsburgh is adopting such a system with a starting force of 200 women.

It is not likely that such a plan will completely solve the problem here but, as Mr. Dillard said, no definite determination of further needs can be made until present facilities are utilized to the fullest. It is well that the City Council is willing to give it a trial, and particularly timely that it should be instituted at the beginning of the Christmas rush season.

DAVIDSON'S PARADE OF PROGRESS

IT WAS in November of last year that Dr. John Rood Cunningham, president of Davidson College, told a gathering at the north Mecklenburg school:

"If the future of Davidson College is to be insured we must meet the demands for further development."

Tomorrow — almost a year later — a homecoming group will have an opportunity to see concrete evidence of this development in the new Charles Worth Johnston gymnasium and a prophecy of more to come in plans for the new Davidson College church to be laid out with markers on the campus.

Davidson alumni and friends can also look forward to a new dormitory, a fine arts center and improvements in campus landscaping.

The Davidson face-lifting has been brought about largely through the college's year-old Davidson Development Program. With a goal of $2,500,000, the Program has brought the school to the attention of the public and elicited more than a little support from Mecklenburgers and others who, though they never attended Davidson, are proud of the college.

Tomorrow's homecoming event — "The Parade of Progress" — is, in a sense, a celebration. The Development Program has met with heartening public support and the goal is not distant.

But, in another sense, "The Parade of Progress" is a rallying point for the campaign's home stretch effort.

The war, G. I. benefits and continuing prosperity have made heavy demands on the schools of the nation. Educators foresee even greater enrollments within the next decade at the institutions of higher learning. The schools have a job to do—and it is not a small one.

Davidson, its alumni, its friends and Mecklenburgers can be confident that the school is doing and will continue to do this job with the determination which has become traditional at Davidson.

THE COMMON SENSE MAN

JOHN DEWEY, for a large part of the 90 years he's been around, has been a mental jack-of-all-trades. Mr. Dewey's clear common sense has made its mark on every subject from religion to education to economics to politics. And then some.

Marking the ninetieth anniversary of his birth the white-haired, lean-framed Mr. Dewey is as vigorous as many a man half his age.

At the moment he's still working — writing a new introduction to his book, "Experience and Nature."

In this volume he lays the groundwork for his individual philosophy of continuing re-evaluation of the conceptions and ideals of culture in the light of new experience. Opposed to the stick-in-the-mud dogmatism of authoritarian philosophers, Dewey believes that new information, new experience should be used as a spotlight to examine old concepts.

Widely-respected as a philosopher, it is, however, as a "progressive educator" that John Dewey is best known to the people of this nation and the world. A recent Associated Press story sums up Dewey's educational theory:

"In essence, explains Dewey, he sought to set problems for his pupils to solve. Or, if they accepted the solutions of others they were to go over the grounds to see how the conclusions were arrived at. Under his methods, pupils share with the teacher in proposing, planning, executing and judging results."

"It has taken about 50 years for my methods to permeate our school systems," said Dewey, "but then that is about what it takes for any idea to get around in our schools."

Not only has the United States been greatly influenced by Dewey's educational ideas, but Japan, China, Turkey, Mexico and Russia have sought his advice. Russia tried it for a while, backed down when they found that his non-authoritarian program didn't jibe with their totalitarian aims.

With the exception of Russia, which can be considered a compliment, Mr. Dewey's stature is assured throughout the world.

One recent tribute to him (published in the New Republic's special issue for his birthday) came to him from the South African leader, Jan Christian Smuts:

"He, more than any other American thinker, has wedded philosophy to life and striven to make it a real force, not only in thought, but also in the practices of his day. In that sense he is typical, not only of American, but also of European trends in the philosophy of our time."

More pointedly, American poet Robert Hillyer tells of Dewey's value in our time:

"In his vision of cultivating in each individual a justified confidence in his power to cope with reality, he has offered democracy the tool best adapted to an age of emergency—common sense."

From The St. Louis Globe-Democrat

EPICUREAN HIT AND ERROR

AN anonymous Associated Press writer recording the highlight of the day under the Capitol dome in Washington reports that President Truman "smacked his lips" at the breakfast given by Congressman Morgan Moulder of Missouri's Second District. Well he might, for the piece de resistence was hickory-smoked Missouri ham, admittedly one of the gastronomic triumphs of the epicurean world.

Speaker Rayburn of Texas was also an honor guest at the breakfast, and it is perhaps the finest tribute that could be paid to Missouri ham that for once a Texan was speechless. The AP reporter, too, was apparently at a loss for words, for his yarn explains that the ham was served with hot biscuits, and we quote, "red-eye ham gravy (a sort of ham juice").

A sort of "ham juice," indeed. For once, the infallible AP has blundered. Any Missourian can tell him that "red-eye" ham gravy is not to be desecrated by so inadequate a term. The rich, red gravy of Missouri's hams is ambrosia; a piquant, redolent with the tang of hickory smoke on a frosty morning, mellow as a harvest moon and spiced to entice the most fastidious taste buds. Poured over hot biscuits, it is a dish fit for a King—or a President.

We note with satisfaction this tardy recognition from the effete East. Let Boston boast of the cod and the South of spoon bread and potlikker. When these delicacies pall, come out to Missouri for good eating!

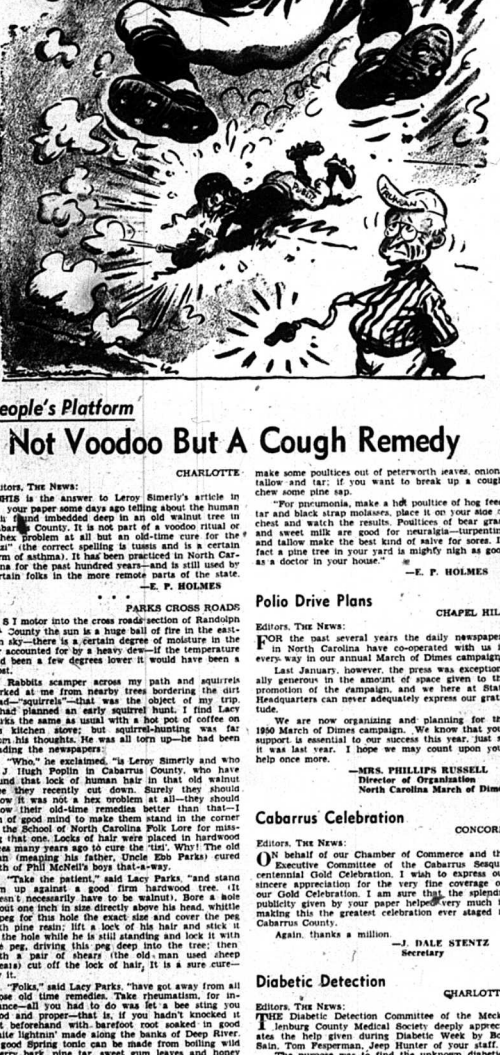
A London publisher says: "Socialism is workable only in heaven, where it isn't needed, and in hell where they've got it."
—*Pittsburg (Tex.) Gazette.*

Any lady or gentleman who has a home on an acre of land in South Carolina and has no fig trees and no souppernong vine is a South Carolinian in need of adult education.
Charleston (S. C.) News and Courier.

An exchange carries a letter to the editor declaring the daylight saving time idea originated with an old Indian who cut off one end of his blanket and sewed it to the other end to make it longer.
Mattoon (Ill.) Journal Gazette.

Who drained the gas out of the city fire truck that had to fill up to get back to the fire hall after a half-mile run Wednesday?
—*Fernandina (Fla.) News-Leader.*

Hey, Ref! How About That Whistle?



People's Platform

Not Voodoo But A Cough Remedy

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

THIS is the answer to Leroy Simerly's article in a recent paper some days ago telling about the human hair found imbedded deep in an old walnut tree in Cabarrus County. It is not part of a voodoo ritual or a hex problem at all but an old-time cure for the "tist" (the correct spelling is tussis and is a certain form of asthma). It has been practiced in North Carolina for the past hundred years—and is still used by certain folks in the more remote parts of the state.
—E. P. HOLMES

* * *

PARKS CROSS ROADS

AS I motor into the cross road junction of Randolph County the sun is a huge ball of fire in the eastern sky—there is a certain degree of moisture in the air accounted for by a heavy dew—if the temperature had been a few degrees lower it would have been a frost.

Rabbits scamper across my path and squirrels barked at me from nearby trees bordering the dirt road—"squirrels"—that was the object of my trip. I had planned an early squirrel hunt. I find Lacy Parks the same as usual with a hot pot of coffee on his kitchen stove; but a squirrel hunting was far from his thoughts. He was all torn up—he had been reading the newspapers.

"Who," he exclaimed, "is Leroy Simerly and who is J Paul Parks in Cabarrus County, who have found that lock of human hair in that old walnut tree they recently cut down. Surely they should know it was not a hex problem at all—they should know their old-time remedies better than that—I am of good mind to make them stand in the corner in the School of North Carolina Folk Lore for missing that one. Locks of hair were placed in hardwood trees many years ago to cure the 'tist'. Why! The old man (meaning his father, Uncle Eph Parks) cured both of Phil McNeil's boys that-a-way.

"Take the patient," said Lacy Parks, "and stand him up against a good firm hardwood tree. It doesn't necessarily have to be walnut. Bore a hole about one inch in size directly above his head, whittle a peg for this hole the exact size and cover the peg with pine resin; lift a lock of his hair and stick it in the hole while he is still standing and lock it with the peg, driving this peg deep into the tree; then with a pair of shears (the old man used sheep shears) cut off the lock of hair. It is a sure cure—try it.

"Folks," said Lacy Parks, "have got away from all those old time remedies. Take rheumatism for instance—all you had to do was let a bee sting you good and proper—that is, if you hadn't knocked it out beforehand with a barefoot root soaked in good white lightnin' made along the banks of Deep River. A good Spring tonic can be made from boiling wild cherry bark, pine tar, sweet gum leaves and honey into a molten mass—if it's too thick add a little good rye whisky.

"The best way to make measles break out is to brew a tea made out of plain fodder—cheap, too. If you want to break up a cold, make some tea from pine needles; if you want to bring a boil to a head, make some poultices out of peterworth leaves, onions, tallow and tar; if you want to break up a cough, chew some pine sap.

"For pneumonia, make a hot poultice of hog feed tar and black strap molasses, place it on your side or chest and watch the results. Poultices of bear grease and sweet milk are good for neuralgia—turpentine and tallow make the best kind of salve for sores. In fact a pine tree in your yard is mighty nigh as good as a doctor in your house."
—E. P. HOLMES

Polio Drive Plans

CHAPEL HILL

Editors, THE NEWS:

FOR the past several years the daily newspapers in North Carolina have co-operated with us in every way in our annual March of Dimes campaigns.

Last January, however, the press was exceptionally generous in the amount of space given to the promotion of the campaign, and we here at State Headquarters can never adequately express our gratitude.

We are now organizing and planning for the 1950 March of Dimes campaign. We know that your support is essential to our success this year, just as it was last year. I hope we may count upon your help once more.

—MRS. PHILLIPS RUSSELL
Director of Organization
North Carolina March of Dimes

Cabarrus Celebration

CONCORD

Editors, THE NEWS:

ON behalf of our Chamber of Commerce and the Executive Committee of the Cabarrus Sesquicentennial Gold Celebration, I wish to express our sincere appreciation for the very fine coverage on our Gold Celebration. I am sure that the splendid publicity given by your paper helped very much in making this the greatest celebration ever staged in Cabarrus County.

Again, thanks a million.
—J. DALE STENTZ
Secretary

Diabetic Detection

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

THE Diabetic Detection Committee of the Mecklenburg County Medical Society deeply appreciates the help given during Diabetic Week by Bob Sain, Tom Pesperman, Jeep Hunter of your staff.

The purpose was to find the unknown diabetics and of the more than 500 who visited the information center during the week, we did some 350 tests, of which preliminary reports indicate that nine new diabetics were found and referred to their local physicians.
—ROY S. BIGHAM JR., M.D.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Contractors' Tax Trial Is Postponed

WASHINGTON

YOU can understand why folks get cynical about good government when you watch the parade of little income-tax evaders who are hauled to court every week, while certain big boys get their cases postponed interminably.

For instance, it has now been one year since this column—Oct. 18, 1948—first reported the shameless manner in which two road contractors living under the nose of Washington officials, had cheated their government in building the network of macadam roads which wind around the largest building in the world—the Pentagon.

The two contractors, W. J. "Doc" Hardy and F. McKenzie Davison had been caught by Treasury agents quick-changing Uncle Sam out of $500,000 by all sorts of devious tricks. Among other things they made out checks to two other contractors, W. W. Thomas and S. M. Reed, who later gave T-men affidavits that they never received the checks. Instead Hardy and Davison forged the endorsements, cashed the checks, and deducted them as expense.

However, when the Treasury and Justice Depts. finally caught up with them, the two Virginia asphalt kings appealed to powerful Senator Harry Byrd, plus other Virginia politicians, a series of conferences followed. The Justice Department listened patiently, but stood pat.

Last July the income-tax case of the two men who gypped their government on war-contract taxes was sent to U. S. District Attorney George Hamrickhouse in Richmond for criminal prosecution.

This writer, querying Hamrickhouse in July, was told there would be no delay in prosecuting the Hardy-Davison case. It would come before the first grand jury in the autumn.

But when Mr. Hamrickhouse was queried this week he was evasive. The autumn grand jury had been in session for some time, but he said he had no immediate plans for presenting the case to it. In July he had said he was quite familiar with the case. But on Oct. 17, he talked as if it was something he had never heard of and devoutly hoped would be forgotten.

NOTE—Mr. Hamrickhouse was appointed to his key job as district attorney through the powerful Byrd machine of Virginia.

Truman On Farm Bill

PRESIDENT Truman hasn't given up on the Brannan farm program, despite the kicking-around it received from Congress. It will definitely be the farm plank of the Democratic Party's 1950 campaign. Truman recently assured National Farmers Union Boss Jim Patton.

"The current battle over farm legislation has had at least one good effect," the President told Patton. "It has served to smoke the boys out into the open. We know how they all stand, including some we expected to support us."

The President named no names, but obviously referred to Sen. Clint Anderson of New Mexico and Senate Majority Leader Scott Lucas of Illinois. The latter, though keeping out of the headlines, helped to lead the fight against the Brannan farm-subsidy program in the Senate.

"I think it's time we took the whole fair deal program once more to the people—not only the Brannan farm program and the nomination of Federal Power Commissioner Leland Olds, but everything else Congress has scuttled," advised Patton. "After all, it's the people themselves who have been victimized by this skulduggery."

Truman agreed.

"The combination that fought the Olds nomination was about the toughest lobby I've ever seen," he remarked. "You're absolutely right. We've got to take it on and I have every intention of doing so."

Canadian Gouge

WHILE prices of most British and Canadian goods have come down as a result of the pound's devaluation, the Canadian newsprint companies, which usually operate as a cabal, have flatly decided not to reduce prices to American newspapers.

This means that the highest newsprint contract prices in history will continue.

It also means that the profits of Canadian newsprint companies will continue at their highest peak, while American newspaper profits are off considerably. Between 1948 and 1948 for instance, Canadian newsprint prices zoomed from $58.50 a ton to $100 per ton, with profits almost trebling.

Profits of such big operators as Abitibi shot from $10,101,512 in 1945 to $25,227,584 in 1948, while Consolidated's profits increased from $10,539,451 to $25,116,345.

Meanwhile the operating profits of a typical cross section of American newspapers dropped 54 per cent.

The interesting fact is that when the shoe was on the other foot, the Canadians immediately put it on. In 1946 when the American dollar was pegged at $1.10 as against $1.00 for the Canadian dollar, the same newsprint companies jumped their prices by exactly ten per cent. But now that the exchange has been reversed, they refuse to drop their prices proportionately.

NOTE—Of course it was the newspapers which yelled loudest for the end of OPA under Bowles. They got price controls which kept newsprint at its low 1945 price. However, it's the small papers representing the backbone of a free press which get hit hardest in the present price gouge.

Capsules

MOSCOW WANTS SHOWDOWN—Intelligence reports from the Balkans indicate that Russia plans to infiltrate Bulgarian, Hungarian, and Rumanian troops into Yugoslavia to start a "Czechoslovakian" coup. Moscow would trumpet this to the world as a revolution by Yugoslav patriots and would march across the border. A top American diplomat just returned from the Balkans reports that Moscow is determined to force this showdown soon—partly because it now has the atomic bomb, partly because it is convinced the United States will not fight to defend Yugoslavia. The above facts are chief reasons why all American ambassadors from the Iron Curtain countries have been summoned to meet in London.

WALL STREET PARLEYS—Super-secret talks aimed at ending the steel strike are taking place in Wall Street. It probably will be denied, but Ben Morrell of the Jones-Laughlin Steel Co., together with Inland and Bethlehem Steel, are not happy about the strike. All three companies had pension plans before the strike, and at a recent secret meeting in New York, Bethlehem, Jones-Laughlin and Inland all pressured U. S. Steel's Enders Voorhees, who really runs U. S. Steel, wouldn't budge.

Merry-Go-Round

THE visit of India's Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to Washington will help the State Dept. decide whether or not the USA recognizes Communist China. Nehru is considered the wisest top official in the Far East, with the exception of Australia's Herbert Evatt. The American embassy has cabled the State Dept. that flying discs have now been seen in the sky over Rumania. It is not known whether they are secret Russian rockets or just someone's imagination. U. S. agents are checking.

Marquis Childs

No Hysteria Here

Marquis Childs, Washington columnist and commentator on international affairs, is in Norway on the first leg of an extensive European tour to study and appraise news trends, both political and economic. His analyses and impressions will be reflected in his daily column.

OSLO, NORWAY

HERE in the only Atlantic Pact nation that borders on the Soviet Union the people have good nerves. The news the Russians had set off an atomic explosion produced not a ripple in the Norwegian calm.

It is not alone good nerves but also a realistic understanding of what the Atlantic Pact means for Norway. If Russia should start aggressive action against this northern bastion, the United States would be compelled to come to Norway's defense and another World War would be on.

The Norwegians know, too, that this would not be because Americans favor blue-eyed blondes nor, even for that matter, because of the formal commitments spelled out in the pact. With Russia on the Atlantic Ocean in possession of Norway's deep fjords, which could conceal all the Soviet's new-type submarines, the balance of power would be drastically altered.

In signing up with the Atlantic alliance, the Norwegians were taking a big risk and they knew it. There were dire forebodings of immediate reprisals by the great power that has openly hankered for Spitzbergen in the Far North.

But Russia has made no overt moves since Norway and Denmark decided to enter the pact. Foreign Minister Halvard Lange put special emphasis on this in a talk with me in his bright, clean-looking office on the top floor of an Oslo office building. His windows look out onto the Oslo fjord where in 1940 the Nazis steamed in to complete their capture of a defenseless and peace-loving nation.

TRADITION BROKEN

That act of treacherous and brutal aggression shattered Norway's tradition of neutrality, which had been almost as rock-ribbed as that of neighboring Sweden. It explains why Norway, with the overwhelming approval of her people, could come into the pact while Sweden, escaping both World Wars, stays out.

Because of the present world situation, Lange has become virtually a commuter between Oslo, New York and Washington. Soft-spoken, almost shy in manner, this scholar of the labor movement is approved even by the Conservatives, who in the recent election campaign made no issue of foreign policy. During the war Lange spent six months in solitary confinement in a Gestapo prison and two years in a German concentration camp.

Along the irregular Russian-Norwegian border in the north the incidents have thus far been of a minor nature. A peasant strays across looking for a lost cow; the Russians arrest him and it takes three weeks of negotiation to get peasant and cow back. Often the cow is never seen again.

One is told here that local Communist officials in Kirkenes and elsewhere in the north are now out, replaced by loyal Norwegians. There is considerable resentment over scare stories sent by an American correspondent who spent two days in the north not long ago. These stories, intimating that surveys were going forward for Norwegian-American military bases on Spitzbergen, were picked up by the Communist newspaper in Oslo and loudly headlined as proof of Russian propaganda against the Atlantic Pact. The Government pledged at the time of the pact NOT to allow any American base on Norwegian soil and this has been strictly adhered to.

The only concrete consequence of the pact appears to have been the addition of one Russian division on the Russian-Finnish border. In addition, Norway, after the pact, was added to the list of Western European nations unceasingly vilified and attacked in the Soviet press and on the radio.

But the terms of the trade agreement signed between the two countries two years ago have in general been lived up to. The Norwegians send whale oil and liver oil and fish in return for rye and some other grains. For economic reasons Norway's fishing fleet is considered unlikely that this trade can be increased.

The immediate goal is to build up Norway's defenses. But how fast that can be done depends not on decisions taken here but in Washington and by the headquarters of the Atlantic Pact Defense Council, quietly and with no advertising, there is considerable cooperation with the Swedish military—even though Sweden is not in the pact.

In calm Norway they find it hard to understand why men in the United States should get into an almost hysterical uproar over the threat of Communism. As one official put it with a good-natured smile, "It sometimes seems to us that you are shooting sparrows with cannon." The Norwegians are keeping their powder dry as they face the realities of a perilous world.

Joseph & Stewart Alsop

Our Fake Defense

WASHINGTON

IT IS hard to imagine anything more serious than President Truman's decision to weaken America's defenses in the year of the Bera bomb. Yet the vast issues involved in this decision have been debated only once, behind closed doors, and nearly a year ago. The debate was between the President and the then Secretary of Defense the late James V. Forrestal. And the question they were arguing may be simply summarized, in the manner of a high school debating society:

Shall America have real defenses?

Like the impairment of our defense that is now going on, the Truman-Forrestal debate began with the budget-making process. The year the President has given the Army, Navy and Air Force a budget ceiling of $13 billions. Last year, he set a comparable budget ceiling of $14.4 billions. But this year, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson has tried to persuade the President in economy; while last year Secretary Forrestal tried to find out what the President's order would mean.

The $14.4 billions budget ceiling was set during the Summer of 1948. Almost simultaneously, the services, working on the system still advocated by the Navy, presented combined budget requests of $30 billions. While the President was campaigning, Secretary Forrestal labored long and hard to pare down the astronomical service estimate, yet to assure this country of adequate defenses. In November, he had finished the job. He then asked the President for $16.8 billions for the Army, Navy and Air Force.

This figure of Forrestal's was a gambling minimum, based on a plan that was also a gamble. Or, in other words, it was the very minimum that could conceivably implement the agreed strategic concept of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the JCS blueprint not only failed to provide immediate preparedness for the United States, requiring only a buildup of strength over a five-year period. The blueprint further accepted the necessity, when the buildup was completed and "preparedness" had been attained, of defending this country and the Western Hemisphere against forces far smaller than the forces of the Soviet Union.

To do less than meet the minimum requirements of the JCS blueprint, seemed shockingly imprudent and even irresponsible to Forrestal. Not, however, to the President. According to those who should know, President Truman had then, as he seems to have now, a hunch that there would be no war. He was ready to act on his hunch, however staggering the risk might be. Forrestal, in a profound sorrow drove him to consult Secretary of State George C. Marshall.

At the Dept. then, as now, many policy-makers shared the Presidential hunch. These men believe that the Kremlin desires to expand by infiltration and political conquest, and does not want war. They therefore argue that the political aspects of the world struggle are all-important and that strategic requirements can be met by assuming a mere "posture of defense." This seems to be roughly equivalent to the fighting pose at a boxer who has done no training for six years. The idea is, in short, that the Soviets will be deterred from aggression if we make them

(Continued on Page 15-A)