THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 1949

THE BICKERING BRASS

LIKE a row of dominose the too men in

the nation's defense line-up have fallen in the past in the past of the nation's defense line-up have fallen in the past of the nation of the nation's defense in the past of the nation of the natio

defense structure fails apart is not a diffi-cult one to conjure up.

But Moscow's reaction is not so impor-tant as the domestic consequences of Sec-retary Sullivan's resignation. He quit be-cause Secretary of Defense Johnson, would, not let him build his \$180 million, super aircraft carrier, the United StateS.

not let him build his \$189 million super aircraft carrier, the United State.

Today, up at Newport News, Va., the keel.

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I was laid last week and Navy brass all over the globe was jubilant. But Secretary Johnson told the Navy no diec, called off Congress \$43 million appropriation for the carrier and Secretary Sullivan quit.

We don't know whether Secretary Sullivan believes the United States, si close to war, whether ours is, a war economy. But we have the draft, we have a \$15 billion-dollar military busiles, And if this junification of the second sullivant selection of the second sullivant selection and will secretary Sullivan feels, he can rebel, resign, asy he's through with the Navy Department because he doesn't agree with

the orders handed down to him by the Secretary of Defense with the approval of the Commander-in-Chief. Actually, that's his privilege. His duty happens to be something else again. We feel his duty was to accept the orders of his superiors gracefully.

orders of his superiors gracefully.

We are not overly worried about Secretary Sullivan. He will be replaced. But we are worried about the chaos within the armed forces.

This is no time, nor is there any time, for the men who are delegated to defend the people of the United States to induge in petty politics and inter-departmental rivalry.

petty politics and inter-departmental rivalry.

The people themselves are not going to try to determine whether the super air-craft carrier would have been more efficient in a war than land-based bombers. They will have their own opinions about joint chiefs of daid however, that the joint chiefs of staff — and all top men in the armed forces — behave as if they know how to make their own decisions. Fifteen billion dollars is a great deal of money. The people are going-to-be taxed pretty heavily to make that amount available. And the people are likely to want efficient management of it.

They will not want't in the hands of a group of bickering children and ribbon-happy brass.

SEPARATE ELECTIONS

WE are relieved that a speculative report that the city and state bond
elections would be held on the same day
proved to be totally unfounded. Had it been
true, the joint election would certainly
have contributed to the defeat of the local

have contributed to the defeat of the local program. If we know our Charlotteans, they are going to be cool, if not outriphic hostile, to the two state bond issues—for roads and school buildings—for the very simple reason that Charlotte stands to gain little, although the residents of this city will pay a large percentage of the cost.

The \$500 million in road bonds will be The \$500 million in road bonds will be road program. The bonds will be retired from gas tax revenues in the next twenty years. Charlotteans, and other urban residents in North Carolina, pay the same gas tax whether they're driving on state roads or on their own city streets which they paid for out of their own pocket. They will not be enthusiastic about this great rural road development as long as the State refuses to

share gasoline tax revenues with the cities on a more equitable basis.

on a more equitable basis.

Similarly, the \$25 million school building
bond issue will offer Charlotteans little. We
will get \$201,704 from it, scarcely a beginning toward meeting our local school
building needs. Yet Charlotteans will shell
out, in taxes, some \$3 million or \$4 million
of the \$35 tools, not counting interest. They
are quite likely to vote against this bond
they can build their own school buildings
at a much lower cost.

If the city's own bond improvement program had been put before the people on a day when the negative current was running so strongly, its chances of approval would have been seriously jeopardized.

We would suggest rather that the city election be delayed well after the state election so that the people will be of a mind to approve or reject the local pro-gram entirely on its own merit, without voling "No" merely from habit.

SCHOOL SOLICITATIONS

THE Charlotte School Board is trying to find a way to limit solicitations for worthy causes among school children and teachers. If the board discovers a magic formula, perhaps we can apply it to the

Solicitations in the public schools are particularly exing to the teachers and the parents. They interrupt and interfere with the work of the former; they are a further

School children don't have any money of their own. They get their contributions from their parents. Ofttimes, the various rooms or sections begin completing with one another to see which can raise the most money. The bonr of the class and the pride of the students get to be at stake.

WE'RE STILL CONFUSED

THE average American stands in awe of big corporations, and understandably so; for the financial mumbo-jumbo of big business is a thing of bewildering complex-

ity.

We have in mind Governor Kerr Scott's
little tiff with the Standard Oil Company.

Why, the Governor asked in a telegram,
did Standard recently increase the price
of its gasoline almost half-a-cent in North

Co. Said Mr. Rathbone:

"fissable decreases in the prices of almost
all petroleum products except gasoline have
occurred during the past five monta. The
extent of these decreases has been such as to
estimate any profit margin previously extenting in the manufacture of crude oil to
petroleum products. In gasoline actually being subnormally priced in relation to
other petroleum products. With declining
prices for other oil products, gasoline must
be expected to carry a more normal part of
er under the carry and company to which
"Exartings of our parent company to which

erude oil ...

Earnings of our parent company to which
u referred in your wire were inadequate to
wide enough capital to expand all the
dilities needed to meet the demands of
rery's customers for crude oil and oil prodta, even Eiter being augmented by depreciam reserves and funds received from the
w of assets and, from borrowing, and recting cash dividends to stockholdera."

ducing cash dividends to stockholders."

Governor Scott must have scratched his head over that, for on Sunday of this week Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey announced to the Associated Press-a record 1988 income of \$3,321,87000, an increase of 40 per cent over the previous year. "The increase was due to a greater volume of products sold and to higher market prices."

the company said.

Parents are alternately badgered and begged until they kick through. Thus the husband gives at his office, the wife gives at the residence, and both give again through their children: It's a real

again through their children. It's a real triple play.
What we need, of course, is some sort of over-all solicitation plan for the entire community which would hold these campaigns within reasonable limits. But such a plan would be difficult to devise, and virtually impossible to enforce.
We can make a start, however, by prohibiting any solicitation in the public schools. It may keep the kids from learning about these great needs until it hey're grown, but that's soon enough for them to assume, the burdens of society on their shoulders.

Purchases of crude products and other merchandise from other supplies also reached a new high of \$1,386,245,000. Consolidated net earnings of Standard Oli (New Jersey) were \$305,005,000, equal to \$1244 a share, for 1946, compared with \$268,627,000 or \$9.83 a share the previous year.

year.

Governor Scott probably doesn't understand all of this. He was miffed, and understandably so, because his advocacy of a one-cent increase in gasoline tax was opposed in the Legislature by the N. C. Petroleum institute. That's why he fired the telegram at Standard Oil's home office.

the telegram at Standard Oil's home of-fice.

We await the next round. Perhaps it will help clarify the situation.

Louis Bromfield, author-farmer, argues that people should buy high priced butter instead of oleomargarine because the dairy cow grazes on low growing crops which build the soil. The average consumer is looking for low prices on which to graze to keep his purse from being too eroded and that is why he eats oleo instead of butter, —Quitman (Ga.) Free Fress.

We heard a woman say that she felt betwe neard a woman say that she relieved ter and looked younger, now that she was taking care of her feet instead of her face. —Shelby (N. C.) Daily Star.

Wings Over Berlin



People's Platform

Sugaw Creek --- A Disgrace

Editors, The News:

WHEN Mayor Baxier said that he-selected Charlotte
To his abiding place after careful investigation,
in which to live, but he last word in that case,
which he level, but he last word in the case of the condition of the condit

to live and move and have my being.

First of all, perhaps, the spatie undulations upon which the city is built are incomparable. This in lated has made it somewhat easy to be laid out residentially, what with its beautiful trees and green being the control of the control of

Question number two is, Why don't we so ahead and underpass the Southern Railway tracks at West Trade? And the third is ilke unto it: Why don't we not asked and underpass the Southern Railway tracks at West Trade? And the third is ilke unto it: Why don't we underpass the tracks at Sionewall and Collece, and we underpass the tracks at Sionewall and Collece, and the second of the

-ALEX M. WORTH.
(Does anyone want to come forward with the

sploich on the sidewalk or other public place, he should be required to get a mop and pail and scrub should be required to get a mop and pail and scrub should be required to get a mop and pail and scrub following on the second scrub, and the second scrub following on the second scrub following on the second scrub following without the second scrub following the second s

Police Commended

FUHLE SHIP NEWS:

THERE is to inform you that the police differs have
fulls is to inform you that the police differs have
sur church at high service, and I do hereby commend them for their good behavior.

HOUSTED GREENE,
Service, Little Rock
A.M.E. Zion Church.

Marquis Childs

Eyasion Of Duty

IT IS now thearly three-months affine President Truman sent the Senate the name of Mon Walleren to be Chistrman of the Neathern to be Chistrman of the Neathern Committee, by a majority of one, voted to keep the Wastern nomination in the committee, which means that the full Senate, cannot pass on it.

merely a handful of men on one committee.

RIGHT TO JUDGE

H Gents to me that the concertain the control of t

Stewart Alsop

Mr. Katayama Withers

suggest that Mr. Yoshida is always not the point of sharing some enormous picke with his visitor.

The point of sharing some enormous picke with his visitor.

The point of the property of th

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Atlantic Pact Searched For Pitfalls

TERSE. urgent questions affecting our hopes for peace came boiling to the top the other day behind the closed came boiling to the top the other day behind the closed came boiling to the top the other day behind the closed them, the men who must implement the North Atlantic Pact were kept under steady fire for four and one-half hours. Big, bull-vulced gen. Vandenberg set the pace, but each the peace fair for the peace that the pace to the peace the print for pitfalls and loopholes, and searched for hidden meanings between the lines. As a result, many tough problems were plowed general shooting allers were Secretary of State Acheson, Secretary of Defense Johnson and EOA Ambassador Harriman. They taked brilliantly, but not quite enough, to please the Senators.

Johnson also buttoned up during a barrage of questions. Johnson also buttoned up during a barrage of questions. Johnson also buttoned up during a barrage of questions. Johnson also buttoned up during a barrage of questions. Johnson also buttoned up during a barrage of questions and learned at the Pentagon, and Johnson objected to going into detail in front of committee clerks. This caused Mocould'ng et the information he wanted.

"If the price of the Senator's vote." britated Johnson, "is my violation of what I consider the security of the nation, like we may have to forego the Senator's vote."

Senate Stairs Too Steep

TO Steep your Steep you have y

meeting.

Sen. Vandemoerg wanted to clarify the important question of whether the pact was just another old-fashioned
many silineer or a sensine instrument of collective seminor of the sense of the sense of the sense of the sense
right of nations to "collective self-defenses" in case of attack.

The charter, however, saids in Article \$1; "Measures taken
and the sense of the Value of the sense of the sense
self-defense of the Value of the sense of the sense
self-defense askil be immediately reported to the Security
Council."

Council."

Observed the second served to the Security Council.

Observed the second served to the Security Council.

The second served that the pact itself promised to able by the UN.

Observed the second served the second served that the only measures may be a second served the second served that the only measures we are obliged to report to the Security Council served the second served that the only measures we are obliged to report to the Security Council served the second served that the second served that the second served that the served served the second served that the second served served the second served that the second served that the second served that the second served that the second served served the second served that the second served served the second served served the second served ser

Only Arms To Europe?

Only Arms 10 Europer

"WHAT I want to know," chimed in Utah's scholarly Sen.
Elbert Thomas, "is what do you mean by the rearmament of Europe? One thing Europe knows how to do is arm.

ment of Europe? One thing Europe knows how to do is arm.

et al. The state of the control of the control of the control

et al. The state of the

Merry-Go-Round