

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1949

MENTAL HEALTH OBJECTIVES

But the bumptious Mr. Umstead, who has worked devotedly for an adequate State hospital system for many years, is an incurable optimist who sometimes lets his enthusiasm run away with his better judgment.

ment.

The gentleman from Orange came to Charlotte this week to consult with a group of persons interested in a statewide network of clinics where disturbed patients could get custodial care pending admittance to a hospital and where discharged patients could receive help in readjusting themselves to their community life.

There will be no patients in jail cells by

aid:

1. Get enough doctors to staff the facilities we now have; and

2. Persuade clerks of court to quit playing "politics" and commit only those persons in real need of hospitalization.

sons in real need of hospitalization.

Mr. Umstead believes we can get the doctors. Let us hope he is right, for this is the most pressing problem of all.

We question the accuracy, or the fairness, of his bianket charge that clerks of court

REP. John Umstead's confidence that we are playing "politics." Ferhaps some of the jails and into hospitals by 1981 is irregular comminment of patients who do heartening if his estimate is accurate. not actually need hospitalization is fault of the system, not of the clerks.

raust of the system, not of the clerks.

The law requires that two doctors and two family members sign commitment papers. Perhaps doctors are too lax at times. But a clerk of court, who is no medical expert, can hardly override doctors and refuse commitment once the legal prerequisites are met.

quisites are met.

The attainment of the immediate goal—hospitalization of all genuinely ill mental patients—will not, however, lessen the med for a system of State operated clinics, the framework for which already exists in the several private clinics in our larger cities.

If the care of the mentally ill is a State responsibility — and we believe that it is—then the preventive treatment of incipient mental illness and the counseling and other assistance to newly discharged patients should also be a State responsibility. We believe this two-fold task could be better accomplished at regional clinics than at

After all, the main goal of our State mental health program should be to keep people out of the hospitals, not merely to get them admitted.

SMOULDERING FIRES

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Talk alacrity with which other highranking u. 8. Navy officers have come
to the support of Captain John G. Crommelin in his attack on national defense
policies is further proof, if any were needed, that the long-standing animosities between the various branches of the armed
forces are still smouldering.

No one has attempted to dismiss Captain
Crommelin's outburst lightly. His reputation is too good, and his seriousness is all
role in assisting the preparation of the
"anonymous," memorandum on the B-36
bomber, the faint and disturbing image of
Billy Mitchell can be seen in him.

It is one thing to object, as Captain
Crommelin has done, to the specific decisions made by the Joint Chiefs of Staft to
reduce the size and potency of the Navy's
air arm. It is another matter entirely when
Rear Admiral Rugh H. Godwin- chief of
staft to Admiral W. H. P. Blandy of the
Atlantic fleet, denounces the whole principle of unification and civilian control of
the armod-services.

A NARROW ESCAPE

THE school bus accident near Mooresville yesterday which injured \$\mathcal{D}\$ children and one adult should serve as a timely warning to county-school authorities in all parts of the state.

parts of the state.
Fortunately none of the passengers was
critically injured. But had the accident oc-curred on another stretch of road, near an embankment or bridge abutment, for in-stance, the results could have been tragic

The bus left the road and piled up in a tich after one of the front wheels came

outen after one of the front wheels came
off. There is no evidence that the driver
was in any way to blame.
The State holds title to all school buses
transporting children to and from public
schools, and pays for the maintenance and

Admiral Godwin is quoted in the Norjolk Virginian-Pitot as deploring the "power concentrated in a single civilian executive who is an appointee of the Government and not an elected representative of the American people." He also criticized the action of the Golint Chiefs of Staff in voting on arms policies of individual services, and the control of the Staff in voting on arms policies of individual services, and the control of the Staff in voting of the Staff in voting the Staff in

thus "rob" the branches of autonomy.

It is this resistance to unification—now
the law of the land by act of Congresa—
which must be stamped out. The American
people learned from World War II that
each service, given its head, would run off
at top speed in the direction of its choice.
The Congress and Secretary of Defense
Johnson are trying to keep them all headed in the same direction, and at a pace the
nation can match.

Mr. Johnson may be an appointed offi-cial, but he strikes us as an eminently able-one. And Admiral Godwin should remu-ber that the President, who appointed Mr. Johnson, is still commander-in-chief of all the services, including the Navy.

operation of the equipment. These funds are paid directly to the county school boards. They, in turn, supervise maintenance of the equipment.

It is imperative that all county school boards set up a system which will guaran-

1. The prompt detection of any mechani-The prompt detection of any mechanical defect;
 The prompt repair of any defects so detected; and
 The careful operation of the equip-

The careful operation of the equip-

ment, so as and strain.

The safety record of our State's public schol busses is good. It can be kept that way with a continued emphasis on mechanical perfection and cautious driving.

THE BILLINGSVILLE PROJECT

WE agree quite readily with the Roleigh News & Observer that there are many ishool buildings in North Carolina, white and Negro, which ought to be aban-doned rather than patched up. (See below.) But the repairs to the Billingsville school described in a special story else-where in this edition, hardly, qualify as a "behow" breaks.

where is an employed with a school after extending its city limits last year, it found: (1) pot-bellied iron stoves in each room, (2) outdoor privies; and (3) poor

lighting. It was obviously impractical then, and now-because of the small Negro population there—to build an elaborate now building. So the City School Board decided on the next best thing: a thorough modernizing job on the substantial brick build-

by interested City departments and the State director of Schoolhouse Planning, the repairs struck is mag. The State Health Board rejected the plan for the addition of modern tollets because of the proximity to the well which supplies the school's water, and the State Fire Marshal called for an additional expenditure of \$3,000 for fire walls around the proposed new furnace.

For a while it appeared that these alterations would be lost. But new plans for the toilets have been prepared, and school officials are trying to find the money to comply with the State Kire Marshal's ruling.

ing.

Eventually the kids at Billingsville will
best modern toilets, fluores-Executally the kids at Billingwille will lation there-to-build an elaborate new-building. So the City School Board decided on the next best thing: a thorough modernizing job on the substantial brick building.

The rest of the story is familiar to most Charlotteans. After preliminary approval—solution.

From The Raleigh News & Observer

ILLUMINATION

IT would be difficult to think of anything it sounds a lot more like a phony effort to more ridiculous than the fluorescent lighting in the four-room Orientown Negro achool on the outstiris of characters when the school provided in the school of the content of the school provided in the school pro

Frost On The Punkin'?



Legislative Roundup

Veterans And Congress

THE Sist Congress so far has enacted into law twelve a proposals designed to sid the nation's ex-service-men, and has appropriated approximately \$3.5 billion to run the welverans program. Congressional Quartery whether this is a 'good' record or a 'bad' one, commenters in between, depends on who does the judging. Here are some of the factors involved:

1. Scores of plants to sid former O'Is have been offered in Congress.

2. Two or more of the veterans' organization's these proposals.

3. Of the twelve nearsteed and the service of these proposals.

 Of the twelve enacted only four are ones which the veterans groups regard as being of broad, general acope. The remaining eight enacted are limited in The remaining eight enacted are limited in application.
 Of the ten still pending (having passed only House, or not having cleared committees) five egarded as major.

BOXSCORE ON PROGRESS

OLLOWING this general outline, here is a box-score of progress Congress has made on the lous measures:

CoLLOWING this general outline, here is a boxscore to progress Congress has made on the
Maker propensis emisted—(1) Veteran's preference
for new rental units, included in Rent Control Extension, P.L. 31; (2) similar preference in Jarm home
for the present preference in Jarm home
fouring Act, P.L. 111; (1) retenration of E2T mililion in runds in P.L. 294 to halt 16,000-hod reduction
in hospital program cordered by President (VA still
inn in runds in P.L. 294 to halt 16,000-hod reduction
in hospital program cordered by President (VA still
inn president of the president of the president
press); and (3) transfer of tunctions of the Veterans
Replacement Service Board to Labor Department,
in Reorganization Act, P.L. 109.

Other proposals exacted—(1) P.L. 31, expediting
erans; (2) P.L. 68 providing for reside of housing
projects with preference for veterans purchasers; (43)
P.L. 15 extending time for filing war claims; (4) P.L.
action of the preference for veterans who were prevented
of P.L. 205 extending veterans proposals; (43)
P.L. 15 extending time for veterans who were prevented
of P.L. 205 extending veterans professor; (43)
P.L. 15 extending time for deaths during traintion compensation for injuries or deaths during traintion compensation to the province of the submitted of the province of the submitt

VETERANS GROUPS UNITE

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ON several of the proposals the veterant rough
presented united fronts. For instance, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars. Daked
American Veterans, American Veterans. Committee
erans preference in rent control and housing bits,
the liberalization of Federal insurance on mortgage
erans preference in rent control and housing bits,
the liberalization of Federal insurance on mortgage
excurtly credit for armed service, and increased aid
for disabled vets.

But they were split on some other plans. For
tyPPF wild. AVO opposed a bonus. Amwest first opposed it, then voted for it. On the pension question
the Legion and VPFW favored one, but AVO and
Amwest as also diversalizations.

HOW MANY VETERANS?

A CCORDING to VA figures there are approximately
A 15.182.000 World War II veterans and 3.761.000
veterans of other wars living in U. S. or a total
18.943.000. Of this total 409.000 live in North Caroline.

lina. Regarding the number of beds in veterans hospitals. VA reports that North Carolina has 2.412 in operation, and that 1.200 more beds are in the operation, and that 1.200 more beds are in the the President, North Carolina is scheduled to loss 500 beds from the numbers listed previously, unless Congress or the President orders otherwise, even though funds have been provided.

Quote, Unquote

. The "cold war" will end when human hearts shall warm.—Charleston (S. C.) News & Courier.

Joseph & Stewart Alsop

Action On Asia

Marquis Childs

The Threat Grows

miterial ferequer had at that time the third Man Wortzer Wells and the trust to the third Man Wortzer Wells and the terms to the third Man Wortzer Wells and the time that he paid out of this the deministering the trust to part at least, the trust to part at least, the way to the trust to part at least, the way to the trust to part at least, the way the trust in part at least, the way the way to the w

be made that it would be a nurtuer discrimination against the office-holder and tend to keep men substance and means from running But it seems to me that the time has come to take some action that will check an abuse that may finally come to be taken for granted. That is easenful if only to protect the majority of scruptious members

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Subs Cross Atlantic Without Surfacing

one navil activity for which they deserve great credit-submarines.

Ferhaps this is because the cramped and grimy life of a submarine crew locks gold breid and glamor. Allo, one of the control of the control of the control of the is on battleships. But at any rate. American submarines have made amaning procress, and undoubtedly will be the most important arm of the Navy in the future.

The end of the war saw Cernam submarines with night cost which prevented radar defection. If the wer had cost which prevented radar defection. If the wer had lated much longer, the new German subwould have wreaked haveo on American shipping zone again. Came V.2 Eury and the Russians (took over an Nasi The Russian U-toost today is the most modern in the world. However, the U.S. Navy, rushing to keep up with the Soviet, has now developed a new snorted device permitting as the bressian undervaster for deas at a time. U.S. subs-sant bell results undervaster for deas at a time. U.S. subs-knots, though the cruising speed is only about eleven knots.

Not long ago an American U-boat actually crossed the intic to England without once coming to the surface. Mod long age an American U-boxa scrounty crosses use distinct to England without core coming to the suprisher. Admittinct to England without core coming to the suprisher. have learned that Ruisia has developed something better than the morelat, namely a clemnal which generate congen-ted to the suprisher. In the suprisher constraints of the surface. So the race for modernization of deadly underse weepons continued to Time. The admirals were summended to Waldengton to map a press campaing assists further cutalliment of the Nay. The admirals were worsted over the bad press of the Nay. The admirals were worsted over the bad press means a tactice by festuring as an off-the-record speaker, Frank Hecht, president of the Nay Leegue, who has been bliefly critical of Secretary of Delense Johnson. The meet-

ing entirely neglected one of the finest and most essential Friendship Books

Steel Workers Debate

Murray correctly reported that the steel workers wage policy committee had "unanimously" approved the board's findings. However, he neglected to say that some local steel union leaders kicked over the traces at a storm three-hour meeting in Pittaburgh before a vote was taken.

three-hour meeting in Pittoburgh before a vot was taken. The louidest protests were voiced by local union chiefs in Pittoburgh and the province of the provinc

II. little man who works from about 5.30 A. M. each day of reason as uper-intendent of the main building at the University of Trans.

Trans. The second of t

Capital News Capsules

Capital News Capsules.

MeanTrules Scherk Problem-Here is the inside resManner with President Truman suddenly agreed to let
Congress appropriate \$75,000,000 for non-Communist China.
Until ten days ago, the President was dead set against giving
a nickel to the Chinacs. But recently he received a server
Arthur said it was possible to delay the Communist offensive
indefinitely provided the United States would give aid directly to some of the Chinnee warfords who still have big
armies in the Geld. Impressed, the President plassed word
to Sen. Tom Connally, chairman of the Treestern President
and let the United States give direct help to the most