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SECRETARY JOHNSON'S SPEECH

THERE were two things we didn't like about Secretary of Defense Johnson's "lick hell out of Russia" speech this week. First, it had more the tone of a street corner bully threatening to mop up the neighborhood than of a responsible official of our government.

our big bombers are going to get by Russia's new jet interceptor planes and guided missiles. He has not explained how we are going to offset the handicap of having big metropolitan cities and centralized industrial areas which afford much better targets than the scattered Russian industries.

If it were not for the fact that many informed sources have pointed to gaping holes in our defense lines, it would be comforting to hear Johnson say:

There are, indeed, a number of questions that could be put to Mr. Johnson, questions which cannot be answered with belligerent oaths.

Joe Stalin will know how it starts something at 4. M. That the fighting power of the United States will be on the job at 3. A. M.

Secretary Johnson was talking before a gathering of old friends from the University of Virginia alumni association when he made his speech but he was also talking before the world.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

NATIONALLY known consultants on public education requirements have come up with a prediction that Charlotte will have a population of 300,000 within 20 to 30 years. They added, quite significantly, that Charlotte has things that attract people.

ment on these phases of Charlotte's future, this may be emphasized: Investment in real estate in Charlotte and its environs now holds promise of great profits over the longer term. In keeping with this report, the consultants on Charlotte's future public school needs urged that planning be undertaken at once for purchase of school sites to be needed in 1962 and 1963.

We recall a two-inch dispatch three years ago from a Carolina city quoting the president of the International Paper Machine Company as saying that a relatively small Southeastern segment of the United States will outstrip all other sections of the next quarter-century.

Incidentally, with respect to income the Southeastern States have in the past year made a better showing than the nation as a whole. This was despite the severe recession in the economy dominating textile industry and sharp declines in the price of raw materials.

We also recall the estimate by Southern Bell experts recently that this city's population will increase by 400 persons annually throughout the next fifteen years. These data, of course, are of immediate concern to Charlotte and Mecklenburg County's planners, whether public or private.

Backed by more than six years' experience on the Health Board, Dr. Gilmour said consolidation is not a matter for the distant future, but one that should be effected as soon as possible by the City Council and the County Commissioners.

PAUL GREEN AND SIBELIUS

PAUL GREEN, a Tar Heel who has achieved considerable stature as a short-story writer and dramatist in the folk vein, left the folk vein in the last month. Looking for a more capable and willing American composer, he asked Finland's aging but undeniably great Jan Sibelius to write the music for Washington's Sequelcentennial Celebration, which is now celebrating.

It is firmly believed that the two departments can be made into one by Dr. Gilmour and he refused to predict that the total health bill would be smaller with one consolidation.

While such American composers as Aaron Copland and Virgil Thomson kept their silence, Washington Star music critic Alec Greenman says "It might even be considered an affront to all American composers and to those of world fame who have made this country their home."

Citizens of Charlotte pay virtually all the bill for the County department. Four-fifths of the population of Mecklenburg County are concentrated in Charlotte, citizens of Charlotte pay the bill for the County Health Department.

SAFETY NOTE

TUCKED away in Robert T. Register's column in The Greensboro Record on the Democratic regional rally at Raleigh was one brief paragraph which got away from politics, oratory and party business and moved into the realm of traffic laws and highway safety.

THE operation of two separate health departments within the same county, Dr. Gilmour said, has

With that information, we pose the question which is on our mind: Aren't traffic laws designed for public safety and protection, supposed to be applied to major fact as well as to highway safety and improvement thereof when the second highest officer in the land steps along?

Jack Free Brides was in Atlanta last week. Jack says they are still way behind with their hauling up there and that cars don't have but two gears—both of them forward—high and fly—Early County (Ga.) News.

A News Editorial Feature

Dr. Gilmour Urges Health Merger

By TOM FESPERMAN, Charlotte News Staff Writer

WHEN Dr. Monroe Gilmour raised several days ago as chairman of the City Board of Health, he went out with the statement that Charlotte and Mecklenburg urgently need to consolidate their public health departments.

- 1. The City and County Health Departments use the same building.
2. The City and County departments work on different work-day schedules.
3. The two departments have the same telephone number.
4. But in the one headquarters and with the same purpose of improving and maintaining the public health there are two health officers, two divisions of sanitation engineering, two directors of nursing services, two health boards.

Dr. Gilmour, in an interview, gave several reasons why there is no logical reason to be torn down. The Council and the Commissioners need no new legislation by the General Assembly. They need merely to amend the charter so that one unit would be better than two, and then work out the financial arrangements.

Dr. Gilmour emphasized the fact that consolidation of the two local departments, rather than being revolutionary in any way, would serve but to make Mecklenburg County Health Department in the same status as the departments of 96 other North Carolina counties.

Some phases of the public health work in the two departments already are consolidated giving the Council and the Commissioners a good start toward a complete merger.

There is a better way to explain it, he said. "Don't say that public health is one job. Doctors don't go to the city limits. The things that affect the health of people in the county affect the health of people in the city. There are no boundaries in this matter of health."

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Michigan Governor Campaigns For 'Surprise' Re-election

By MARQUIS CHILDS

LANSING, MICH. (AP)—The Democrats swept into office in Michigan last November, 1948, one of the most interesting in the youth-looking Governor of Michigan, George Romney.

before his term has expired. The "deal" for the speculation has gone a step further, to suggest that Vandenberg would again in the Fall. Williams is the fourth Democrat to be elected Governor since he started the New Deal in 1933.

His critics say why that he has spent most of the time sitting in his office. But one of the penalties of the individual two-year term, which prevails in many states, is that the Governor before he is re-elected in a state of the wealth and diversity of Michigan, with the vast new burden imposed on voters for the first time in a premium on inefficiency and politicking.

Much of the speculation on Vandenberg's low-rated embrace of the state is based on the assumption that Michigan will go Republican in the Fall. Williams is the fourth Democrat to be elected Governor since he started the New Deal in 1933.

One thing Williams undeniably has and that is charm. He looks like a blend of F. B. Ives and Gary Cooper. And the friendliness and naturalness so widely admired in his campaign, he has distributed even more liberally during his first year in office.

Beyond doubt, Williams owes a debt of gratitude to the pro-Truman vote. But if the labor lag is too obvious, he is not likely to be re-elected in a year without a Democratic President at the head of the state. There are just about as many small-town and farm voters as in the city voters.

While Williams' election might be seen as a final year of normal year, Michigan Republicans are aware that today they have more control.

At the same time he has had to contend with a low-rated embrace of the state is based on the assumption that Michigan will go Republican in the Fall.

There are, in some instances, a health or sanitation standards in the city that are stronger different from the standards in the country.

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There is a better way to explain it, he said. "Don't say that public health is one job. Doctors don't go to the city limits. The things that affect the health of people in the county affect the health of people in the city. There are no boundaries in this matter of health."

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round Report Shows How Du Ponts Rule Industry

WASHINGTON (AP)—CONGRESSMAN MANNY CELLER of New York is keeping it secret so far, but his monopoly investigating committee has a report on the chemical industry which every businessman should read.

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