

J. H. DOWD, General Manager; B. A. GRIFFITH, Executive Editor; C. A. McKNIGHT, Editor

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1951

\$40,000 TO GO

The Memorial Hospital building fund campaign picks up steam again today, the goal of \$400,000 is now just \$40,000 away.

This achievement by a small corps of workers led by James J. Harris and Carl McCraw, is all the more remarkable when one considers that the first part of the campaign was conducted in the busy pre-Christmas season.

DEPLETED TAXPAYER REPLETES OIL CLUB

The newly opened Petroleum Club of Houston, says the Wall Street Journal, is "the swankiest in the world."

Membership, restricted to oil men, is now 750. Fifty men are in the waiting list anxious to browse through the 1750,000 word book of exotic trappings.

Last month Congress passed a law that will phase it different from the "percentage depletion," a meaningless phrase to most taxpayers.

An industry dealing with non-exhaustible resources, textile plant for example, is granted ordinary tax-free allowance for depreciation of equipment.

GENERAL VAUGHAN FITS THE DESCRIPTION
LAST week the director of the Federal Housing & Home Financing Agency issued a directive to his employees regarding the acceptance of gifts from their clients.

NO MORE PRESIDENT

The voters of Uruguay—or at least the 30 per cent of them who bothered to go to the polls—have changed their form of government from something which, on paper, resembled the American presidential form to a nine-member Federal Council similar to that of Switzerland.

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Well, there is some uncertainty as to just what constitutes a tradition, so there is no point in issuing a challenge. Uruguay has had his share of political intrigue—military coups and economic exploitation.

By Latin American standards, this one was not very much of a coup, and it was all regularized by a constitutional convention.

Troubles Of The Volunteer Fire Department

Despite Big Expenditures, U.S. Propaganda A Failure



People's Platform

Letters should be brief, written on one side of the paper. The writer's name must be signed, but may be withheld from publication at the discretion of the Editor. The News reserves the right to condense.

Age-Old Challenge

THE citizens of Steele Creek-Berthill community in their suburban cottages are meeting the age-old challenge of that of future and progress.

This is not mock piety, but clear recognition of the contingencies of our Nation's armament race and our helplessness in such a situation.

We believe these citizens have courage enough to believe that their idealism is not dead. We believe that they have the same bravery and the same devotion to the things worthwhile that their forefathers had.

COURTLAND A. JONES, President, Charlotte Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Columnist Ruark's 'Joke'

UNDER the date line of Dec. 13, columnist Robert U. Ruark disclosed that the highly extolled octogenarian, Bernard Baruch, was not as venerable as "a veritable devil with the girls."

Three days later Mr. Ruark is standing hip-deep in controversy, flagellating himself and issuing the retraction that his observations were "transgressions in judgment" and all in fun.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-G-Round

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Quote, Unquote

A Communist is a guy who wants to use your pot to cook your goose in.—Carlabud (N.M.) Current-Army.

Thirty-five years ago two-thirds of country editors, each year, would inform farmers how to farm, what to plant, etc. All that foolishness has come back in a new way.

People say they like the Fall of the year best. And that is funny considering that it is the Fall when you start a fire in the furnace, let it go out, start it again, let it go out, and so on.

One widely known college coach feels that shaving points in basketball cost him a bad, as long as the game isn't actually thrown. This, then, makes paragraph two of the new code of ethics, right before the one about the same under ten pounds not being a bribe.—Jacksonville (Fla.) Times-Union.

Steel Prices And Price Policy
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By Stewart Alsop

WASHINGTON
THE AMERICAN propaganda effort, for which very large sums are being raised, is a complete flop. This may not be true within the Soviet orbit.

Two experiences in France suggest the nature of the flop. In three weeks with the French army, this reporter was asked by at least a dozen French soldiers why the Americans did not put on a real propaganda drive, like the Russians.

Subsequently, talking with a number of workers in a small French factory, one of them was a Communist—this reporter heard two simple points made over and over again. First, the Russian Communist—this reporter heard two simple points made over and over again.

This sort of thing can hardly be considered a rewarding return on huge propaganda investment. Even in well-informed England, the impression is widespread that the Russian propaganda drive is a flop.

It is not for want of trying. The Voice of America undoubtedly includes the men. Presumably large numbers of people hear the Voice of America.

Be It Ever So Humble, Was There Ever Food Like This?
BY ROBERT C. RUARK
THE lima beans swam happily in a pool of glistening juices from fat-back pork and so did the sprouts and the green peas.

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