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THAT \$305 MILLION 'DEFICIENCY'

THE State Highway Commission's pro-jection of a \$305 million "deficiency" program to bring the primary road system up to 1991 standards raises an interesting question. Is this worful situation partially, if not largely, due to Governor Scott's emphasis on secondary roads?

One reason this newspaper opposed the \$200 million secondary road bond issue two years ago was its belief that the big figure had been plucked from the air, and that no effort had been made to correlate the long-range needs of secondary roads with those of the whole system. The Highway those of the whole system. The Highway Commission answered finst the use of bond money for secondary roads would make more tax money available for primary roads. That the reply was an evasion rather than an answer has now been established by the Commission's own survey of primary road needs.

A few facts chosen from the data accumulated last year by the Municipal Road Commission support the charge that the primary road system has been un-der-emphasized, and the secondary road aystem over-emphasized by the Scott Administration.

Administration.
Forty-three per cent of total mileage
traveled is on the primary highway system, 19 per cent on secondary roads, 33
per cells on city streets, and around 8
per cent on other roads. Yet in 1848-49,
the Highway Commission spent \$33,000,000
(36 per cent) on primary roads, around \$38,000,000 (44 per cent) on secondary
roads, and only \$5,700,000 (seven per cent)
on streets.

It was estimated by Engineer James S. Burch, in a letter to the Road Commission on March 17, 1950, that the primary road

aystem was receiving 36 per cent. of State gasoline taxes and license fees, that the secondary roads were receiving 53 per cent, and that streets were receiving 69 per cent. That this ratio is far out of balance is indicated by figures of expenditures in 4 other. Thates where, on the average, primary roads receive 60 per cent of State funds, secondary roads receive 23 per cent, and streets get 6 per cent. In 1948-49. North Carolina spent 68 cents for every 100 vehicle miles driven on the primary roads, s. 31.0 for every 100 vehicle miles driven on the secondary roads, and 17 cents for every 100 vehicle miles driven on streets. In other words, the State spent three times as much per vehicle mile on the secondary roads as not me primary roads, and eleven times as much on rural roads as on shreets.

roads, as no serven unies as much on tural roads as on streets. Put another way, the primary roads carry 48 per cent of all traffic and now receive 36 per cent of gasoline and license taxes. Secondary roads carry 19 per cent and receive 35 per cent of the tax money. Streets carry 33 per cent and receive 4 per cent.

Streets carry as pre-tree cent.

The News admits quite readily that the State highway system—primary and secondary roads and city streets—is an interdependent and interrelated system, the based unity of which cannot be cut up for the phopose of comparison and analysis. Yet the above statistics indicate, we believe, that the current deficiencies in the primary system largely reflect a disproportionate expenditure on secondary roads in the past.

In the past.

In evaluating the new \$305 million
"deficiency" program for primary highways, North Carolina taxpayers should remember what has caused the deficiency.

PURGE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Even if one tends to be overly cautious, tit is hard to read into the latest Creech purge anything other than the conclusion that Moscow is finding it increasingly difficult to impose Stalinism on satellite nationalist groups and the hope that the stern measures Moscow is taking will further inflame the nationalism that smoulders everywhere behind the Iron Curtain.

The charges against ex-foreign minister Viado Clementis and five lesser alleged conspirators have a familiar ring. They have been "deviationists". They plotted

the death of President Klement Octivated and the seizure of the party and the Czech Government. They have been conniving with foreign spies. They have been trying to line Czecholovakia up with the West. For all of these alleged crimes, they will likely get the death sentence just as did other "traifors" who put the interest of their own satellite nations above that of Russia-Rajk of Hungary, Kostov of Bulgaria, Xoxe of Albania, Varlades of Greece, Nowhere in Stalmism is there room for anything but the most slavish obedience to Moscow.

Moscow.
The troubles in Czechoslovakia go deep. The troubles in Crecibalovakia go deep. In 1948, one-twentjeth of the members of the Crech Communist Party were dropped from the rolls. This year, 189,544 others—84 per cent of the published total membership—have been dropped. And Secretary-General Josef Frank's report to the Central Committee Thursday indicated Central Committee Thursday indicated that another purge, more rigid than the current one, is yet to come.

Everywhere the story is the same. Hun-

gary announced this week that 190,000 Communists had been lopped from the party rolls. The last count showed 23,500 ousted in Romania. Polands' various purges have trapped some 200,000 devia-tionists.

ousted in Romania. Poland's various purges have trapped some 200,000 deviationists.

The rallying point for the satellite nationalists is Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia who, despite a campaign of terrorism and intimidation waged incessantly by the Kremlin and its lackeys, has managed to overcome drought and economic boycotts and to stand upright and unsafraid as an independent Communist.

Said one of the reports to the Central Committee: "We shall prove that there is a place in the party only for those who in the most holy manner love the Soviet Union, the Communist Party or Bolsheviks and Comrade Stalin." The reference to Tito was clear.

What does the latest Czech purge mean

to the West?

If we may paraphrase a pet phrase of
the Communists, it means that Stalinism
contains within itself the seeds of its own
contains within itself the seeds of its own

contains within itself the seeds of its own destruction. Insistence on complete loyalty to Moscow may turn out to be a boomerang fatal to world Communism.

It means that the strains behind the Iron Curtain are stronger than we have suspected, and that cracks in the Russian structure are beginning to appear.

It means that Marshal Tito appear.

It means that Marshal Tito appear.

Russias are the strains of th

ANOTHER AMENDMENT NOW IN ORDER *

DESPITE the fact that most state leg-sistaures ratified the new 22nd amend-ment to the Constitution without sub-mitting the question to popular votes, it is safe to assume that the two-term Presi-dential limit expresses the will of the American-people.

dential limit expresses the will of the American people. The two-term tradition has been strong in this nation since the days of Washington and Jefferson. It was so strong that no President before Franklin D. Roosevelt dared test it, and that eminent genterman probably would not have won genterman probably would not have worn agreement of the second probably would not have to be received in the second probably would not have to be will be legally impossible for any man to be elected to the office of President more than twice.

THE News has been fully aware of the arguments in favor of limited Presidential arguments in layer of limited Presidential tenure, and concurs with them quite en-thusiastically. Nonetheless, this newspa-per felt that the tradition was strong a-plenty to restrain any future President, and that it would be best not to write the

restriction into the Constitution lest another 1940 or 1944 should occur. Now that the 22nd Amendment is the law of the land, it becomes appropriate to consider limiting terms of other public offices, specifically Congressional terms. The Congressional system has the same inherent evils of the unlimited Presidential tenure-a tendency to perpetuate oneself

tenure—a tendency to perpetuate oneseif in power, a temptation to place politica above the national welfare in order to win re-election, a creaking and archaic seniority system with its emphasis on long service rather than ability.

Two terms for a Senator, and four terms for a Representative would be a fair figure. It is unlikely that the Congress, which possible the 22nd Amendment, would state the state of the state

an amendment.

If the principle of the 22nd Amendment is valid, does it not follow that the 23rd is now in order?

From The Asheville Citizen

GOOD, IF-

GOV. JIMMY BYRNES of the other Carolina says he will not issue any more problemations setting aside weeks or days as special observances for this group or that one. Nobody, he explains, pays any attention to such proclamations.

We hope His Excellency sticks to that high resolve. But we dunno, we dunno. mgn resorve. But we dunno, we dunno.

In Lower Carolina the Legislature has
the Governor so hogtled constitutionally
that on some working days there's nothing
much to do but sign proclamations. Too,
there are days and there are weeks, and

for each day there are several while most weeks have dozens. Celebrants for some reason deeply desire proclamations. Charieston would consider it less majesty no doubt, if a native son refugeeing in the up-country around Columbia did not get the week of Azalea Festival off to a roaring start with a high-powered proclamation, whereased to the sky.

Many a man who thinks he has a clear conscience, has only a poor memory of his past.—Greenville (Tenn.) Sun.

'Detachment' Might Settle **Bickering On Wage Board**

By MARQUIS CHILDS

wilsons arise shrewines and his wilsons a rative shrewines and his habor perience in bargaining with labor. He seems to have assumed that although he and the others he brought in with him came from big industry they would be according to the mobilitation effort. Consequently there would be no necessary to balance the picture with one or more representatives from the trade unions.

But in view of the pattern of recent years, this was at the very least naive. The conflict goes too deep for that. What is more, the personalities of the past are too deep for that. What is more, the personalities of the past are too deep for that. What is more, the personalities of the past are too directly involved in the present of the United Labor Policy Committee, representing virtually all the unions except the United Mine Workers, is James B. Carey, secholarly the state of the third workers, and the present of the control of the members of the United Mine Workers. Last September Carey's union in negotiations with the General Electric Co., of which workers Last September Carey's union on president, got a consistent of the present of the control of the present of the control of the present o

WASHINGTON
THE DISPUTE over labor's place in the defense organization and the control of conflict between industry and the unions during the past fifted with the struggle for power which t

Drive Comes Out in The Open. have been widely circulated. The Feb. 12 letter attacked minimum wage and fair labor standards laws as unnecessary, their under the properties of the standards laws as unnecessary, their different properties of the standards laws as unnecessary, their different properties of the union was the following paragraph in a discussion which began by pointing out that President Truman had said that striking railway switchanen had "acted like a bunch of Russiana" the line of Russiana" the line of Russiana" the line of Russiana" the line railway switchanen had "acted like a bunch of Russiana" the line railway switchanen had "acted like a bunch of Russiana" the line railway of Russiana the line railway of Russiana the line railway of Russiana the line railway the line railway of Russiana the line railway of Russiana the Russiana the

IRRITATION AGGRAVATED
The Feb. 19 letter commenting
on the walkout of the three union
members of the Stabilization
Board suggested that this resulted
from "a deeper irritation about
their failure so completely to domnate the political side of the defense production and stabilization
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rule" of 15,000,000 organized workers over 50,000,000 organized.
Wilson severed all connection
to the control of the control

What's Wrong With This?

(An Editorial from The Ashe-

The citizen Divided equally into 12 parts, the population of North Carolina would divide into 386,756 persons for each of the 12 congressional districts. The slim Republican minority in the General Assembly has presented a redistricting bill which would do more or less just that.

owned a requirement of the white of the considerable merit. North Carolina in voting as well as population figures, we think, the measure has considerable merit. North Carolina of the considerable of

Maine.

The present 12th district is made up of Buncombe, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Swain and Transylvania Counties.

In the last Presidential election this district cast 45,054 Democratic votes and 33,240 Republican votes. The Republicans would take Madison and Yancey Counties out of the 11th district and Mitchell out of the 10th, adding them to the of the 11th district and Mitchel out of the 10th, adding them to the of the 10th, adding them to 10th the 10th of the 12th. These counties cast 6.857 Democratic votes in 1948 and 8.350 Republican votes. Thus, under the new alignment in the 12th district, the theoretical vote wo uid be: Democratic, 51,911; Republican, 41,770.

"New" 12th 10,141
In the neighboring 11th congressional district there are at present seven counties: Cleveland, Gaston, Madison, McDowell, Polk, Rutherford and Yancey.
This district cast 32,919 Democratic votes and 22,394 Republican votes in the last Presidential election in the last Presidential election.

votes in the last Presidential elec-tion.

The Rey blist would drop Re-publican Madison and Democratic Yancey, adding to the 11th dis-trict from its neighbors Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Surry, Watuga, Wilkes and Yad-kin Under this alignment the the-cretical vote would be: Democra-tic, 63,574; Republican, 56,527.

tic, 63,74; Republican, 95,827.
What, we want to know, is wrong with this new alignment? It puts a population of 335,104 (as against 233,074) in the 12th district and a population of 346,709 (as against 1985,199) in the 11th district. While the proposed arrangements give the Republicans a better capture the 11th district, the marin remains roughly the same in the 12th district. The counties tend to be contiguous on lines running the 12th district. The counties tend to be contiguous on lines running north and south rather than sprawling east and west, while in some instances, such as the case of Madison County, at present they gerrymander Republican votes into a Democratic district.

of the 10th, adding them to the counties which are already in the 12th. These counties cast 6.837 Democratic obtes in 1948 and 8.837 and 1950 Republican votes. Thus, under the new alignment in the 12th district, the theoretical vote would be: Democratic, 51,911; Republican, 41,770.

Let us put it another way A table of comparison would give this

People's Platform

School Dispute Aired

'I'll Be Glad When The Great Debate Is Over

CHARLOTTE

Editors. The News:

ON Feb. 23. a delegation representing the Merry
Oaks Civic Club attended a meeting of the
Charlotte Board of Education for the express purpose of obtaining information regarding the promised building of the Merry Oaks Elementary School
and the Chantilly Jr. High School.

A week ago it was announced that these two schools and one other in a different section would not be built at this time with the funds obtained through the \$3.5 million bond issue which was voted several months ago.

voted several months ago.

Prior to the bond election a talk was made by Dr. Garingare to the PTA at the Chantilly Elementary School and in the talk he urged everyone to go out and vote for the bond issue with the distinct understanding that Merry Oaks Elementary School would be among the first schools to bouilt. Perhaps other talks were made at other schools with the same promise made regarding schools to be built in other districts. We do not know if they would not be surprised if this happened elsewhere in Charlotte.

In Charrotte.

After the bond issue was voted the newspapers gave considerable publicity to the schools
which were to be built and the first on the list
was Merry Oaks Elementary School. On Nov. 18,
1850. it was announced that a 23-acre tract had been
purchased in Merry Oaks at a cost of \$23,000.

on aterry Oaks at a cost of \$23,000.

On Feb. 23 we listened to a lengthy discussion of the shrinkage of the \$35.5 million and were told that at least \$5 million should have been asked for and that actually \$9 million is needed to complete the schools.

and that actually \$0 million is needed to complete the schools. We asked why the Merry Oaks School which was number one on the list for building was also number one on the list for building was also number one on the list to be shelved, whereupon the Board members just looked at each other and the school as first. That indeed is a lame answer to an intelligent cuestion. Before this we were told that a group of New York experts had been called in for a survey and that all houses in the neighborhood streets were visited by any look of the school as the figures obtained. It is quite automathing to us that figures obtained. It is quite one on Draper Ave or Carolyn Drive was called, upon by anybody for that information and as far as we know none of the other neighborhood streets were visited by any experts.

Just where is, the \$3.5 million going? What is

as we know none of the other neighborhood streets were visited by any experts.

Just where is the \$3.5 million going? What is to be done with the 23-are tract that has already been purchased? Is it to stand idle indefinitely? It was suggested by board members that because of present overcrowded conditions prevailing at Chantilly Elementary School and Midwood Elementary School and Midwood Elementary School that it will probably be necessary to hold split sessions. If that is the case, cannot the board members see that the situation is critical ground purchased on Commonwhelds Are. for the Chantilly junior high school would not be satis-

factory because of the adjacent collisium that is to be built. Did not the board members know was considering ground in that neighborhood! If that property is to be sold where will the money from the sale go' Will it help finance Merry Oaks or Chantilly or will it be used in some entirely different section of Charlotte?

HERBLOCK

or Chantury or win to ease in some enturey directed section of Charlotte?

Most of the new schools follow a similar pattern and we cannot see why it should take approximately six months costly architectural drawings for example of the control of

MERRY OAKS CIVIC CLUB, Mrs. Elliott Ives Porter, Secretary.

The Law Of Humanity

Editors. The News: HAMLET SINCE we are at the cross roads of world chaos or world peace, it would appear that it is vitally necessary for mighty nations to become weaker when it becomes apparent that their philosophy and gurpose is not for the betterment of all the people of all the world.

We the people of the world live in one world.
We must learn to live in harmony and peace in this—our world.

this—our world.

Every person in the world is entitled to a peaceful and happy life in this world. If you believe in God you must believe that. Any nation that continually tries to stir up strife and trouble among the nations of this earth, will slowly but surely lose its power and prestige among the nations of this earth.

Nationalism is a fine thing, but we the people of this and other nations must remember that the other nations and their people have certain inalienable rights under the greatest of all laws, The Law of Humanity.

-ROBERT C. BOYD SR.

Note Of Thanks

CHARLOTTE

The coverage given us by The News con-tributed a great deal to the success of the cam-paign. We shall look forward to working with you throughout the year.

HELEN B. BURRIS

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Newsmen Have Obligations To Public

MASHINGTON

DREW PEARSON, departing for a news survey of gathering European war clouds, left the following instructions for his staff:

To the staff:

To th

in southout to which the public will respect you for being fair. If you are sure you are right, however, stick to your guns and if necessary we will battle it out. Senator calls you a market of the control of the con

Smoke-Filled Rooms

The news-wrongs of the Capital. The big newspaper ins can be ruthless, their newsmen in a hurry. It is

your job to probe deeper than the handout or the official statement. You are to pick up where the spot-news men, rushing for the telephone or grabbing for the headline, leave off. Frequently the best part of the story is after the spot-news cream has been akimmed.

Remember also that ever since politicians became politicians, the thing the public was not supposed to know has taken place in the private lobbes and the amokefulled to the public is usually what he public is most entitled to know about, and the job of a good newspaperman to report,

Faith In Government

WEVER, it is also important to remember that the Government is neither all good nor all bad. There bureaucrats who are worfully inefficient, and bureau-s who are a credit to mankind. It is your job to

discriminate.

Government is only as good as the men in it. And since men are human, they are subject to all the frailities that make up mankind—laziness, inefficiency, greed, graft,

temptation.

But they are also subject to great effort, sacrifice, in-

But they are also subject to great effort, sacrifice, inspiration.

It is your job as a newspaperman to spur the lazy, watch the wesk, expose the corrupt. You must be the eyes, ears and nose of the American people. Yes, the nose, too, is important. For no matter how much stench you may be exposed to, never lose your sense of smell.

But likewise remember that there are scores of underpaid Government servants dedicated to the cause of good government thom the public never hears of. It is your job to encourage them. It is also your job to let the pub-

Defend Little Fellow

Detend Little reliow

EMEMBERS also that it's the little fellow who usually
get kitched around. It's the little businessman, the Gi,
let he has few friends in high places, no big politicans to pull
wires, no one to speak for him on inter-locking boards of
directors. He has only the American public's strong sense
of right and wrong to back him—and it's your job to spell
out those rights and wrongs so the public can know what

cooks.

This applies to minority groups as well as little people. Sometimes these groups, such as the Negroes or a minority religion, need a little more encouragement than the folks who are doing all right anyway.

When the summer that though the world moves slowly the summer of th

man—it is your job when possible to help accelerate the pace. Sometimes it is better not to report a delicate diplomatic negotiation. Sometimes the cause of paces is best not to report and the report of the paces is best natic harden. Sometimes the cause of paces is best natic harden from a news story until a difficult diplomate fumble. If they bettery their trust, then it is your job to be ruthless in exposing that betrayal, You must be their watchdog. You must let them know what the publicity penalty is—if they fail.

These are the goals of the Washington Merry-Garden for the packet words you say it in, the better.

These are the goals of the Washington Merry-Garden which I have not lived up to. Perhap you can. Drew Pearson.