SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1951

THE AGING ELECTORATE

GENOTOLOGISTS—the people who study the problems of old age—have been telling us that before long we'll be a nation of old folks. They say that within twenty years or so there will be more voters who qualify as old folks than there are young voters. And some of them are fearful that older voters, juried by the sparking promises of demagogues, will become such a potent voting bloc that they will force the enaction of ill-advised class legislation. That may happen. Alrieddy bloc-voting by old people has influenced legislation in the states of California and Washington, and the step to the national political scene is not a very long one.

he step to the national political scene is of a very long one.

This week the Southern Conference on remote and one suggestion for solving, the problem—a suggestion so callous of cruel that it scarcely merits comment.

Frank G. Dickinson, economist and stations for the American Meeting and the control of the control of

maximum age limits and deny the vote to, say, anyone over 65.

Dr. Dickinson's easy-asple plan is patently unfair, undemocratic, and unjust. Furthermore, it is a negative approach to a problem that needs positive thinking. The better approach is found in a recent U. S. Chamber of Commerce report on the role of management in providing security for the country's workers. Said the report.

Management should "participate actively

in the formation of a national policy on such problems as the increasing propor-tion of the aged in the population and the methods that can be devised to meet this growing problem."

And the Esso Standard Oil Co., in a pamphlet called "Preparation For Retire-ment: A Study of Post-Employment Adjust-ment", recognizes the potential power of the

Standard Oil, pointing out that conservatism and age are companions, hopefully sug-gests that "it is possible that the peak of political support for radical changes in our government's economic system has been

"Preservation of property rights and in-dividual security are of more personal Im-portance to the elder citizen than experi-mental radicalism. If industry can convince the aging industrial population that it is doing something concrete about their un-certain future, socialistic remedies might well wither for lack of support."

went witner for lack of support."

In an effort to downice the aged that it is doing something. Easo is providing retiresment income for employees (based on the productivity of the person's working career) and is stimulating retired employees to seek a retirement that will be "active, fruitfall and constructive, one that will combat frustration."

frustration."

Both the Chamber of Commerce and Esso Standard Oil have shown more intelligence in this matter than Dr. Dickinson, a man who should know better.

THIS IS WHAT WAR MEANS

THIS week we saw what we consider the most moving war photograph in many years. It showed no guns, no tanks, no wooping planes. It showed only a Korean mother and her daughter; but it told elequently of the real meaning of war.

The Acme photographer made a picture of a Korean mother, her back and head burdened with the pitiful remains of her home, as he sought to lift her daughter who had collapsed at her feet.

as the sought to lift ner daughter who has collapsed at her feet.

They had evidently walked many miles to escape the storm-enter of the war.

'A great picture? We think so. There was none of the glamour of flashing steel wings, none of the impressive power of a row of tanks moving to the front, none of the glands of the stacks moving to the front, none of the glands of the stacks moving to the front one of the glands of the stacks of the stacks



generals telling of great victories and not mmaculate distants casually talking over reen baire takes; the meaning of war is

Let them remember this at Lake Success, at Paris, in Moscow, in Washington,

A ROGUE'S GALLERY OF VERSES

IN THE Federal Court House on New York's Foley Square last week and this, television kliegs burned bright on a number of well-known faces. It was the cli-max of Sen. Estes Kefauver's efforts to un-cover links between underworld government and mayors, councilmen, governors, gressmen, judges and others of the

mate government.

First of all, there was the Senator himself, gaunt, spare-haired—looking something like an urbane Abe Lincoln.

A Tennessee man named Kefauver Had no record for being a rover, But in Jamed Foley Square He was the boy with fair hair— Now he's known from Seattle to Dover.

Also prominent in the camera's lens was another committee member—New Hampshire's cherubic but pious Senator Tobey:

A New Hampshire Senator Tobey
A New Hampshire Senator of fame
Found the gamblers' excuses quite lame.
He belabored the gents
With scripture intense
And, occasionally, cried out: "For
shame."

England solon, There was, for instance, Mrs. Virginia Hill Hauser, one-time mistress of Benjamin "Buggsy" Siegel, West Coast racketman.

The pretty Mrs. Hauser, nee Hill, Who, allegedly, has been through the mill.
Told of life with Bugs Siegel:
And claimed it was legal.
"My hand was ne'er caught in the till."

In the last days of the testimony, New former mayor-William O'Dwyer

flew up from Mexico, where he is currently being Ambassador.

being Ambassador.

An Irishman named William O'Dwyer

Laid, "I'll answer all you require;

Sure and I got some aid

For which Costello paid

But if you say I knew it, you're a liar!"

But by and large it was Frankie "Hands"

Costello—Mr. Big, The Boss—who provided

the suspense for the show.

A gambler named Frankie Costello Was a retiring sort of a fellow. So when quitzed on crime He replied every time: "I retuse to answer on the grounds that h might tend to incriminate me."

From The Arkansas Gazette

FIRST YOU CATCH THE HOG

A FEW Sunday dinners ago the Richmond Times-Dispatch became embroiled with the St. Louis Post-Dispatch over the respective merits of Virginia and Missouri hams. tive ments of Virginia and Missouri hams. The Louisrille Courier-Journal promptly got in the act, declaring that "of course, the only place for the true ham gourmet is Ken-tucky." This saide line enraged the Des Moince Register, which claimed that Des Moince Register, which claimed that Des the property of the course of the course of the miss the epitome of a pork fancier's dream.

Now, we have no desire to quibble with these fine newspapers. Virginia ham is very good ham, almost as good as the propaganda which constantly surrounds it. Missouri ham which constantly surrounds; Missouri ham is all right in its sally little way, and lowa, where the tall corn grows, does indeed produce a right juicy pig occasionally. Old Rentucky, too, has an honored name for its country product. But when all is said and done, who would compare a bit of costume jet from the five and dime to a diamond from the five and dime to a diamond from Cartier's? When these states proclaim the neurishing aspects of their hams, we'll po-litely agree; when they try to match tasts with the Arkansas hickory-smoked, wild-honey-cured ham, which takes more than half a yeer for full treatment; we can only laugh.

Only out of one side of our mouth, how-ever. For while the genuine Arkansas coun-try ham may be compared with a jewel from Cartier's, it is unhapply almost as rare. The smokehouse proprietors of Virginia, Ken-tucky, Missouri and Jowa have long since discovered that a famished city slicker will pay, almost any price for their product and have accordingly made it available. In Arkan-sas you still have to run your country ham down—a process that usually involves a series of discreet inquiries and a long jour-ney up an unpaved road.

The Veterans Administration is being criticized for requiring 1,500 signatures on a college contract. This is no time to be wasting essential copper by wearing out fountain pen points.—Fort Myers (Fla.) News

It pays to aim high, young man, though you may miss what you are shooting at. You may aspire to be a high salaried corporation executive and turn out to be a plumber, which is almost as good.—Lemer (Mo.) Democrat.

Rearmament Is Moving **Faster Now**

By MARQUIS CHILDS

IN SPITE of all the clamor and contusion and confusion and conflict the job of rebuilding America's dequate its being done. That is the meaning of the figures just released which show nearly \$20 billions now committed in lirm con-

cilities.

If has taken an enormous amount of peaking, pulling, prodding and down-right bludge-only to begin to get appropriated money translated into weapons of defense. But the results are beginning to show up in a starting way. In the first 20 days of January
more contracts were placed for the Army than in the previous six
months.

months.

How complicated this process is can be judged from the fact that there are more than 350,000 classifications of things to be ordered. That is classifications, let it be stressed; the number of individual items runs over 10,000,000.

PROGRAM IS MOVING

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For the first time the two men
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former. Marshall, and the UnGreenge C. Marshall, and the UnThe poing of ten has been rough
for of the most difficult problems
has been to get wool for uniforms
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the first time the way of contracts.
Then came a strike of several

got in the way of contractic.

Then came a strike of several weeks in the woolen industry. Asmoved into the situation with the flower of the several weeks in the woolen flower of the several weeks in the woolen flower of the several way and the energy that characterizes her. A wage increase was tentatively agreed on which seemed to promove the several way and the several way and the several way and the way of the

fear.

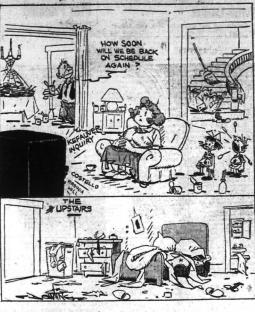
At that time General Marshall made a prophecy. He predicted that by September of 1951 the tide of opinion would again have changed. As present events show, he war somewhat optimistic.

changed. As present events show, we was somewhat optimistic new the lake is again of economy the lake a gain of economy the lake a start, a beginning, rather than a job done. Soon Congress will be done. Soon Congress will be foreme appropriation for the current fiscal year. The request, partly before some propriation, probably will be for more than the \$10 billion previously suggested as the figure. Of course, Congress should give course, Congress should give possible economies. But quite apart from such an essential survey, this request can serve as test of American intentions and a test of American intentions and a test of American intentions and a test of American intentions and the properties of the world that we have relaxed again into something like the old complacency.

vated.

With much hustling around this week, Deane,
with the aid of Rep. Frank Carlyle (representing
the Maxton area) wangled a fourth inspection of the
site.

The Problem Of Readjustment,



News From The Capital

Lawmakers Take A Breather

By TOM SCHLESINGER Charlotte News Special Writer

WASHINGTON lewmakers are looking forward to their Easter waston with a mixture of a many properties of the measure aren't sure it will work to be the properties of the measure aren't sure it will work to be properties of the measure aren't sure it will work to be properties of the measure aren't sure it will work to be properties of the proper

continue their pleas in person.

CONGRESSMEN admit that legislation has been lagging body, so there won't be much argument on that point. Seastorn Clyde R. Hore and the point of the point

ber if it gecame necessary, and voted for the root.

A truction Finance Corp. mess. Smith voices a seneral opinion that "the confidence of many people has been shaken."

But Senator with the truction of the read of the rea

In filling, use are assumed to the Government.

Be of the Government of the section is reprehensible, and to be condemned, no question on the RFC's future should be considered without remembering it does serve a useful function. But, if continued, "the concluded, "it should be recognized, and freed from any suspicion of influence."

any suspicion of influence."

CERTAINLY one Congressman who will be in for much quizzing will be Rep. Charles B. Deane. He had practically assured his Laurinburg friends that the Laurinburg-Maxton Air Base would be activated.

was insdequate, and favored spending money on the Raleigh-Durham sirport. Deane scored a major point when he declared that the Air Force investi-gators—who went about it secretly—didn't even know that a public housing project was set to heare.

He said too that the Government had already invested \$9 million at the Laurinburg-Maxton facili-ty which was going to waste.

So the Air Force agreed to look into the matter once again, this time openly with the support of the citizens.

CENATOR HOEY and Representative Hamilton C. Jones will probably be asked about the chances for an Air Force Academy in the Charlotte area.

Hoey views the academy as a "long-range project intimately associated with the present emergency." Jones believes it the only solution in "keeping the Air Force supplied with an adequate number of academy-trained efficers." number of scatemy-trained officers."

What they probably won't tell you is even if
the N. C. site is chosen, most Congressional sources
feel it would be a long time before anything is done
about building it.

The Air Force may have narrowed down its se-tions from 354 to seven sites, but that's a far from getting the Congressional approval needed.

cry rom getting the Congressional approval needed.
The scadeny, for instance, was scuttled last session by the House Armed Services Committee, that his committee wrole into the then pending public works bill a specific probabilition against construction of the scadeny at that time.

The needed to the scadeny at the time.

The committee felt, Vinson said, that this is the kind of project that must be deferred until "after the present emergency." There is nothing to indicate that Vinson or the committee has undergone a change of heart.

gone a change of heart.

A SAMPLE of high-level, inter-office co-opera
A ison. Senator Sauth crowned blende and petite and interest of the control saudo, of Senator Hoey's office, Cherry Blossom Queen at a North Carolina Society dance . Looks like the new tax bill won't clear Rep. Doughton's Ways & Means Committee before May 1 which means no tax bill until after July 1, anyway which means no tax bill until after July 1, anyway which means no tax bill until after July 1, anyway which means no tax bill until after July 1, anyway which means no bat bill the service of th

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communica-tions should be less than 300 words, typewritten if possible, and on only one si r. Libel and obscenity will be de leted-otherwise anything goes. Each must be signed.-Editors, THE NEWS

Is Seen In Big 4 Meet By JOSEPH ALSOP

Soviet Plot

THIS TRAGIC but brave city as I the best place to think about the projected conference of the Edif Four Feetigm Ministers. In Washington, they worry about tao leading to the project of t

playing.

In sum, these stakes add up to Germany. Germany nowadays in the key, both stynegically and politically, of Western Europe. Hence this projected conference which in America seems so remote in likely to be as significant a turning point as the London meeting in 1986, that led the United States to adopt the policy of "patience and Itrumess."

and ifference of the policy of "patience and limenes."

To be sure, no one who survery in some property of the scene from Berlin can possibly credit the rumor, so sedulously spread by the Krumin, that the spread by the Krumin, that the secretary of the four power conference they have determent. In pressing for the four power conference they have decision on the vital matter of the German contribution to the defense of the West. In this the German contribution to the defense of the West. In this the German contribution to the defense of the West. In this the German contribution to the defense of the Seat tumphant by succeeded, anning the second aim is wastly more ambitious. The society has been described by the second aim is wastly more ambitious. The contribution is how Soviet Foreign Minister Vishinsky will seek to attain this planned objective. What is feared in Washington is the state of Germany on the hasis of genuine free elections, in return for Germany on the hasis of genuine free elections, in return for Germany on the hasis of genuine free elections, in return for Germany on the hasis of genuine free elections, in return for Germany on the hasis of genuine free elections, in return for Germany on the hasis of genuine free elections, in return for Germany on the hasis of genuine free elections, in return for Germany on the hasis of genuine free elections, in return for forces.

pation forces.

On the surface such an offer would be very attractive, especially to the Germans. For the Russians, it would mean the control of the control

sideration at any four power meet-ing.
On balance, therefore, it sp-pears more likely (although very far from certain) that the Soviets will avoid the great gamble with East Germany that has worried Washington. Unfortunately, how-ever, there are other tactics, equally menacing, which are also open to the Kremlin. These re-quire discussion in another report.

Petain Likes Prison Over Wife, Freedom Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

TMIB French Government is in a quandary regarding I Marshal Henri Philippe Petain, 86 years old and still confined in the old fortress on the health-enot tale of Yeu. The aged marshal is serving a life sentence of Yeu. The aged marshal is serving a life sentence or enment, but the French Government would like to re-lease him. Petain, however, refuses to be released. He is too confortable, gets too many sympathy packages from the USA and furthermore has a very special reason for mind the sentence of the property of the pr

tween Petain and his wife as told by a priest who visits emarchal.

The fortress guard, approaching Petain where he sat ading, announce. "Marshal, your wife is here."

"Tell her I don't want to see her."

"But ahe insists on seeing your wife is here."

"Just the same, tell her I don't want to see her."

"Just the same, tell her I don't want to see her."

"In guard shifted uneasity, finally remonstrated: "But he goard shifted uneasity, finally remonstrated: "But we will be a see her."

"All right," Petain yielded, "Provided you stay in the om with me and provided you only let her stay four mutes."

minutes."

Madame Petain was then ushered in and stood beside her husband, who did not look up.

"Philippe," she finally said, "aren't you glad to see "Who is that woman?" Petain asked the guard.
"I'm your wife, Philippe. Aren't you glad to see me?"

"She says she's my wife," the marshal again addressed his guard. "I have no wife. Tell her to go away."
Petain went back to reading his book and the guard unhered Madame Petain out. When he came back, Petain remarked: "I told you not to let her stay more than four minutes, but I did it in two minutes." He seemed pleased with his strategie. This is the chief reason why Petain is not released. He has sent word to President Vincent Auriol of Frances that he much prefers to remain where he is, rather than go back to his wife.

Italian Communism Vs. French

Italian Communism Vs, French
THERE'S a big difference between the setback to ComTHERE'S a big difference between the setback in
France. In Italy as soore or micre of the top Communist
for the Communism of the Communist
end of the Communism of

farmers vote Communist, not because they believe in it, but because they are just perpetually agin the government. The property of the difference in the Freehold Iulian battle against Communism is in the diministration of the Marshall Plan in France and Italy. It's difficult to realize that there could be such a difference in the American administration of the same program in two different countries, but there is.

U. S. Propaganda

In ITALY for instance, ECAdministrator Leon Dayton

has made public speeches encouraging the Italian govland reform, and to help the working man generally. In

France, however, ECA money was poured in at the top to
help factories get back in production, and while ECA has
thus helped employment, the working man at the bottom
docant see where he has got any benefit. So he voices

ocean to see

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