

#### A FLANK ATTACK ON GOV. SCOTT

A TWO-EDGED knife for trimming the power of North Carolina governors has been fashioned by the joint appropriations committee of the Legislature.

committee of the Legislature.

One edge would cut the governor's authority over the million dollar emergency and contingency appropriation in the General Fund, now allocated as needed by decision of the chief executive and the Council of State.

The other edge would slice off one of the governor's biggest plums—the power to spend surplus Highway Fund revenue as he thinks best.

mittees.

Since there is so much politics in this scheme, it is difficult to view it objectively. It is patently aimed at one man, W. Kerr Scott, rather than at the institution of the governorship. Mr. Scott and the leaders of the 1961 Legislature haven't gotten along together, and the legislators are seizing this gopportunity to whittle film down to a convenient handling size. Since there has been no agitation under previous governors for this change, we can only assume that the motive is substantially political.

We can seen on merit in the first part of

We can see no merit in the first part of se plan. Members of the Council of State re constitutional officers, elected by and asponsible to the people. They are not be-

bolden to the governor, and it should be safe emough to leave the emergency and contingency fund under their supervision. The Highway Fund is a different matter. This newspaper has long felt that the governor and his appointes to the Highway Commission enjoy too much latitude in hipsending highway money. Although expenditures from the General Fund are detailed alignost to the last penny by the General Assembly, the Highway Fund is set up in a few big, broad categories. Within those categories, the governor and the Commission are at liberty, in most instances, to spend the money as they fancy. In the specific case of surplus revenue, the governor's authority is complete. And surpluses have been large in recent years, mainly because the Highway Fund budget has grossly underestimated revenue

cause the Highway Fund budget has grossly underestimated revenue. Governor Scott has a point when he questions the constitutionality of the whole scheme. It is, unquestionably, an invasion of the executive prerogatives by the legislative branch And it would be a highly dublous practice, even if it is constitutional, for members of the General Assembly to have the power to appropriate and spend money.

have in power wants to bring the vast
If the Legislature wants to bring the vast
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If the Legislature wants to bring the vast
better say would be to develop a new
bighway budget which would detail expenditures more precisely and thus restrict the
Commission's wide powers. A part of that
reform could well be a blanket restriction
against spending any surplus money.

# EENS, ETC. and use Powell bill money to do additional work. At a time when the Federal Government is greatly increashing the state of the control of the co COUNTING THEIR CHICKENS, ETC.

A LTHOUGH it may be as late as June, 1952, the end of the next State fiscal year, before cities get any money under the Powell bill, some members of the City Council are already rubbing their hands in

glee over the prospect.

At Wednesday's Council meeting, Mr. Boyd put in an early plug for three major street-widening projects, and it is an interesting coincidence that all three are in his neighborhood. Other Councilmen chimed in with some of their "pel" projects, until the affair soon took on the appearance of a gathering of nephews to plan the spending of uncle's money before the old man had passed away.

City Manuser Vannew instant some street of the str

money before the old man had passed away.
City Manager Yancey injected some sanity into the proceedings when he reminded
the Council that Charlotte will get only one
\$400.000 a year from the Powell bill, an
amount scarcely adequate to effect a miraculous overnight, cure for Charlotte's street

allments.

Having had some slight interest in the whole problem of city streets, their relationships to the State Highway System, and the rights of city dwellers to enjoy some direct return from the gasoline tax they system. Arms would advance a couple of sug-

gestions.

First, it is not inconceivable that the heavthy-burdened taxpayers of the City might expect some reduction in their City tax rate
when Powell bill revenue becomes available.
The sum of \$440,000 was set up in the current City budget for whole program of street
maintenance and resurfacing. That amount
requires 2351 cents out of the City's \$1.97 requires 23.51 cents out of the Chys 31.57 tax rate. In normal times, the people of Charlotte would probably be willing to con-tinue the tax assessment for city streets

## POSTAL RATE INCREASES But it is a most question as to who is getting a "subsidy". In the case of newspapers and magazines, the subscribers are the beneficiaries. If there is any subsidy, Any substantial increase in mail rates must inevitably be compensated for by increased subscription rates. The question is academic with most of the larger newspapers that deliver their papers by carrier and send only a tiny percentage of their total circulation via Uncle Sam. The smaller dailies and weeklies are more concerned, since much of their circulation is by mail. The writer of the letter has stated his case

Certainly there is a great need for such major projects as those proposed by Mr. Boyd-Central Avenue, The Plaza, and 36th

Street. But we rather suspect that the tax-payers of Charlotte are not going to sit idly by and permit any City Council to use all the Powell bill revenue—revenue that be-longs to all urban dwellers as a matter of equity—in a splurge of neighborhood pork-barrel projects.

A LETTER in today's People's Platform calls for an editorial footnote.

This newspaper does not oppose now, and has not opposed in the past few years, necessary increases in mail rates for newspapers and magazines.

THE News has called for a reorganization of the Postal Department as prescribed by the Hooyer Commission Task Force. Until uch a reorganization streamlines the archaic and unwieldy postal accounting system. doubt that it is possible accurately to charge

up precise deficits to any one type of mail THE NEWS believes that the Post Office sould be self-supporting, and that all types mail should bear their proportionate share

From The Reporter

#### WHAT'S IN A WORD

FOR WEEKS, the philosopher-strategists of rime and Life have been beating the drum: War is here, now. NOW. NOW, not some time in the future, but right NOW. And in their opinion it isn't limited war, it is allout war against the enemy with whom under no conditions could we live in peace. Who dares to say that democracy and Communism can coexist?

munism can co-exist.

Obviously, a war against an enemy with whom we cannot live in peace can end only when he is thoroughly crushed and surrenders unconditionally. This means total war, as it means that later on, after we win, we shall have to assume complete responsibility for the welfare and the survival of the defeated people. Those are not just empty generalities, for we are still buy lifting our two last major enemies to their feet.

But recently there has been a change in he strategic-political thinking of Time and iffe. A recent Life editorial explains that

war is not inevitable, and asks what "war" means anyway. "Yet it is a word in general use, it has a present meaning. Life, for example, has said recently that we are, already at war—war to the finish, war now. What is meant by this use of the word war? For war, substitute 'struggle'. We are already in a struggle—struggle for our lives, a struggle to the finish, a struggle now."

The writer of the letter has stated his case

well. It follows that he is apparently willing to pay more for the newspapers and mag azines he receives through the mail.

So they meant struggle, after all. Struggle is a word we use all the time-struggle for survival, struggle for existence. Struggle is a constant companion of everybody, everyconstant companion of everybody, every-where, all the time: Struggle is growth, and growth is life.

All this is quite reassuring. The Time and
Life people used a word that was a little
scary, but now we can relax. It was as if
somebody in a crowded theater had shouted,
"Fire! Fire!" and then blandly corrected
himself: "For fire substitute Light! Light"
After all, what is light if not controlled fire?



### People's Platform

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

#### Newspapers And Postal Rates SPARTANBURG, S. C.

Newspapers Anu Postut and Annual Postut An

000. While the press was criticizing the management of the postal department, editors kept quiet the fact that newspapers go through the mail for 1.42 cents a pound for reading matter by such ridiculously low rates times 6 billion newspapers and magazines a year and you have a loss of \$200 million.

magazines a year and you have a loss of \$200 million.

You don't hear a how! from the millions of 3cent letter writers because of 3-cent postage. But
there is in force now tremendous pressure in Wash
ington to kill Truman's attempt to increase per
selfish and sure magazines. Such action seems
selfish and sure magazines. Such action seems
selfish and sure that of 3-cents an ounce have
been a money maker to the amount of about \$100
million a year, according to the magazine article.

If cittens can pay their 3-cent way, certainly the
press should be forced to pay its will,
if may be interested in the magazine article.

If we have the sure of the sure of the contents
of this letter after editorially denying
that the newspapers and magazines were largely to
said anything goes in your letter column as long
as nothing libolous or obscurency. HARRISON.

(NOTE. See editorial. "Total Rate Increases",
elsewhere on this page. —Editors, The News.)

#### Our Starving Kids

CHARLOTTE

CHARLOTTE Editors. The News:

AFTER reading Tom Fesperman's stories about the poor little hungry white kids, too, I thought I would send you a copy of a list for the poor little hungry white kids, too, I thought I would send you a copy of a list for the control of the control

even \$20,000 to our Johnson C. Smith University. Why? But they did find 78 Negroes living in eleven shacks under the nose of good old Davidson College just 30 days before the Smith-Graham election. That kind of stuff kinda smells.

#### How About It, Mr. Duke?

Editors, The News:

WHEN a household rr is on an electric alarm clock, as mine does, and when Mr. Duke's electric current poes off during mit is downright have. Children wait that they'll be late of school, and they are. The bread-winner is maguish over what Mr. Dithers will say. The housewife, hurrying to make up for time lost by the will have continued to the school, and they are the school and they are.

lapse of the clock, scorches the toast and singes afer diaposition.

Bin't there some way that Mr. Duke can either make up for time lost by electric alarm clocks, either by doubling the cyclical rate for a period or by having the American Trust Company's time-teller robot rouse all households with electric alarm clocks and action clinical state of the control of t

-TILLIE EULENSPIEGEL.

#### The Ideal Woman

The Ideas Woman

McBEE, S. C. Editors, The News:

Typiers and sonly one man that can really appredicted with the solid proper and that is the bachelor. Now bachelors are not women haters. On the contrary their taste is so fine that they have never been also to mere certain.

The solid proper solid prope

sinds of people. See anougo de crean or mine, sooy, and all for her man. One that knows how to have and to hold from this day forward for better or worze. A man likes to feel that he's the cock of the walk and that likes to feel that he's the cock of the walk and that I meet a girl of my desire, I'll settle down for a pipe and slippers and a gang of kids yelling their heads off.

#### **Chances Appear Small For Negotiated Korean Peace**

MARQUIS W. CHILDS

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MARMINGTON

IN THE effort to bring some the control of the

#### You Want To Cry When You Think About This Country

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NOTHING SEEMS to make a great deal of sense these days, or had you noticed? All the

uays, or had you noticed? All the academic arguments about the 38th Parallel, as if they were discussing the house rules for a croquet game. The draft is cut, at the same time they announce they are hiring commercial sodilers and are calling up high-ranking reserves.

One of the best men I know with a phrase, Joe Mitchell, wrote a piece one time about being hit on the head with a cow when, he was a boy. I will steal Joe's line. Every time I pick up a paper or enter into a conversation or clock a TV set today I feel like I have been hit on the head by a cow.

been hit on the head by a cow.
It is a trentendous world, today, when a dignified mobeter like
Frank Costello has an attempted
to the mother of the control of the cost of t

privacy of Mr. Costello.

What I mean, you feel numb all
the time. You know things are happening, but the impact is like the
feel of your lips when the dentist
shoves a needle into the gum. Just
numb.

Something has happened to val-ues, somewhere along the line. There seem to be no more right and wrong, no more black and white, no more good and bad. There just seems to be a broad gray area which encompasses ev-erything.

icism rampant.

The President of the United States has become the butt of maky had jokes, and a great many of them deserved. The nation's capital is almost a cus word, and when you see where the leaders have run, with their leadership, it makes you feel like crying a little bit.

We have been treated lately to a horrid diet of compromise and expediency, of cheapness an d blunders, to where the average kid might wonder if honesty were the blist policy, since he has seen so little of it around lately.

seen so little of it around lately.

The air of bewilderment thickens when you see the hoodlums standing on their "Constitutional rights," when "Constitutional rights," when "Constitutional rights," and old in the can lawyer's gimmick to maybe save them from a jolt in the can lawyer's gimmick to maybe save them from a jolt in the can lawyer's gimmick to maybe and the can be constituted by the can be constituted by the can be can be

tered by elected politices.

Seems to me we are standing in
need of a doze of mental and spintiual subpiur and molasses,
tiual subpiur and molasses,
the standard s

#### Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

#### **Slot Machine Business Operated Lobby**

MOST people don't know it, but the slotmachine boys of Capitol Hill solons to defeat the Preston Bill regulating slot machines. The lobby even listed certain members of Congress to be contacted. Congress to be contacted.

dication of the pressures exerted to kill the Nesturer crime probe.

The problem of the side-machine bill, representatives of several the side-machine manufacturers met secretly in the Chicago felics of the O. D. Jennings Co., in order to plan their wire-pulling campaign. They were out to kill legislation introduced by Congressman Prince Preston Jr. of Georgia for the regulation of slot machines shipped across state lines. A confidential copy of the secret minutes of this meeting has been obtained and revealing excepts follow:

#### 'Reliable Congressmen'

'Reliable Congressmen'

"HERB JONES (of the Bally Manufacturing Co.) made the following comments:

"This ought to be continued to the Congressment of the House subcommittee ought to be approached, but only if the contact made with the Congressman is extremely reliable. Congressman Bekworth of Texas (Democrat) and Congressman Elisworth of Texas (Democrat) mill be handled by Jones. The other industry committee members ought to contact the House Internate Commerce committeemen assigned to them. Also, each industry member international contact in the contact of the district in which his place of business is located.

"The Senator Kelawier investigation and public relations — The industry can't take the attitude that it is op-

posed to the Kefauver investigation. To do so would line it up with the hoodlums. However, some of the attacks to which the industry is presently being subjected could be prevented with the use of an intelligent public-relations program. ... Members of the industry have consistently lied by maintaining to the public that the industry does not manufacture gambling equipment. This, of course, is not true. There ought to be an hootest admission of maintaining the manufacture gambling equip-maintain.

ment."

The representative of the Bell-O-Matic Corp., Vince Shay, suggested that the industry "ought not to rest on its oars but ought to conceive a plan of operation. The committee ought to consider the possibility of employing a co-cordinate the activities of the entire industry in doing whatever had to be done to defeat the passage of the (alot-machine control) bill."

#### Slot Machine Strategy

In summary, the secret minute report: "After discussion, it was finally determined that the course of action of the secret minute report minut

when we use usures in which their grainst are located.

2. They should submit their arguments against the Preston Bill and similar legislation in writing.

3. Committee members should send latters to club customers, asking for information on the amount of indemachine fusing distributed to charitable and charitable enterprises. The information gained from letters which the

clubs return will be used in preparing statistics for the committees in Congress."

NOTE—Though a watered-down slot-machine control bill passed Congress anyhow, its enforcement is still held up by the Justice Dept.

up by the Justice Dept.

Slanted News
THE Washington Times-Hersid has demoted its crack
THE Washington Times-Hersid has demoted its crack
Typic Hull reporter. Bert Wissman—for good reportgation of the smear campaign against ex-Senator Tydings
of Maryland and the fake picture which the Times-Hersid
printed of Tydings and Communist Earl Browder together.
Wissman reported the hearings objectively, telling both
sides of the story. But this want' what the Times-Hersid
wanted. So Wissman was given a cub reporter's rewrite
the Tyding-therings who would write the news the way
the Times-Hersid wanted it.

#### Merry-Go-Round

Metry-Go-Kound
THOSE famous 800 letters now on President Truman's
I desk, which Congressmen wrote to the RFC saking for
loans, are only a small drop in the bucket. The President
has been informed that Senators and Representatives have
written more than 6,000 appeals to the RFC on behalf of
their first than 6,000 appeals to the RFC on behalf of
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