# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS



SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1951

## THE THEORY OF THE APPLE

Dusiness — I could understand the bribery and the contributions to political parties; that account of the political parties; that account of the political parties; that account of the political parties are position to reform that was most bitter; that of good, prominent citizens who had no apparent connection with the underworld. As Dr. (Charles H.) Parkhurst forced such results as the voluntary closing of some short of the political parties of the property of the property

FROM Richard B. Croker he learned that politics is a business. "Like a business man in business. I work for my own pocket all the time." Croker told him in a moment

of frankness.

From a prominent member of the New
York City Club, he got a refreshingly candid
view of what Steffins had always thought of

view of what Steffins had always thought of bribery. "If you are promoting a business and you encounter in the State an obstacle, you will bribe it out of your way just as you would blast a rock."

Later on. Steffins turned from newspaper work to writing magazine exposes of crooked politice in American cities. He was not far into the enterprise before he had developed a theory of graft—that political corruption was everywhere the same, in Minneapolis, In New York, and in St. Louis. In Philadelphia, Israel W. Durham, politi-cal boss of that city, contributed to Steffins'

cal boss of that city, contributed to Steffins education. Steffins had argued that one busieducation. Steffins had argued that one busi-nessman's bribe is nothing but a crime, but that a succession of business briberies over the years is a corruption of Government to make it represent business. Israel said, thoughtfully. "Then contributions to cam-paign funds are more regular and, there-fore, worse than bribes"

BUT IT WAS in Cleveland that Steffins really began to understand corrupt politics. The man who cleared his head of a

INCOLN STEFFINS was a tender teen
see when he first heard about the "tinDerried by the glamer of horse racing.
Steffins stands tabling around the tracks.
He decided he'd be a jockey. Then, one day,
He friend shows told him bout fixed races
—how the jockeys, grooms, trainers and
cowners were all bettors, and how, they could
make "big killings" when they were "in on
the know" of a fixed race.

That was the first distillusionment in what
was to become a life of distillusion. traced
faithfully step-by-step in the famed Autohospraphy of Luncol Stiffins.

As a young reporter covering wall Street,
As a young reporter covering wall Street,
Steffins found out about the connection
between legitimate business and illegitimate
business. net or rubbish was dynamic Tom Johnson who told him.

"Oh, I could see that you did not know what it was that corrupted politics. First you thought it was bad politicians, who turned out to be pretty good fellows. Then you blamed the bad business men who bribed the good fellows, till you discovered that to wall did were pretty good business men. The fittle business men didn't bribe, so you settled upon, you invented, the phrase, big business; and that as a far as you and your kind have ever get; that it is business that does it? Whether it's a big steam railroat; you see that it's privileged business that does it'. Whether it's a big steam railroat full was that was a far a little gambling house that wants not to be railed, a temperance society that wants a law that the coupying an alley for storage—it's those who possess privileges that defend our corrupt politics. Can't you see that Steffins saw it, and was turning it over in.

that:"

Steffins saw it, and was turning it over in
his head when Johnson added, in a quieter
voice: "It is privilege that causes evil in
the world, not wickedness; and not men."

Some time later, lecturing in San Francisco, Steffins put the thing in his own
words. An Episcopal bishop rose in the
audience and tool Steffins he was not meeting the minds of his hearers. "What we
want to Rnow," said the Bluhop, "is who
founded this system, who started it, not only
in San Francisco and Los Angeles, in this or
the last generation, but back, 'way back, in
the beginning." the beginning."
Replied Steffins:

Replied Steffigs:

"Oh, I think I see. You want to fix the fault at the very start of things. Maybe we can. Bishop. Most people, you know, any it can. Bishop. Most people, you know, any it can be said that it was Eve. the woman; the did it. And Eve said no, no, it wasn't she; it was the serpent. And that's where you clergy have stuck ever since. You blame that serve is the serve since. You blame that serve to show you what it was, it is, the apple."

SOMEONE one said that the trouble with the American people is that they haven't read the minutes of the last meeting if enough of them will go back and read Lincoln Steffins' Autohography, they will not be so shocked and bewildered by the revelations of a Kefauver committee or an RFC investigation or a "5 per center" probe

probe.

At the heart of all this conniving and corruption is The Apple—the desire to make money and to get the help of Government, either through positive privileges or a negative "hands-off" attitude, in making that

live "handsoft" attitude, in making that money.

It will ever be so until the American voter decides that the best government is that which acts in behalf of the general interest, rather than his special interest, and votes accordingly. Which is just another way of saying always.

### THE MAN WHO WOULDN'T DIE

II L. MENCKEN went home from the hospital the other day, the proud possessor of at least one oblituary notice printed prematurely, and several elegiar plees which had said he was as good as dead. A lifelong hypochondriac and recently a genuinely sick man, Mencken could chuckle at the doctors who gave him up last October. "Doesn't have a chance," they declaimed in unison

in union
All over the country editorial writers,
many of whom had learned a lot from the
fractile sign of Baltimore, sat down when
they read the medical pronouncement and
pondered over Henry Louis Mencken. Then
they sent their editorials out to the linotype

men and stathed away the type to be used when the inevitable announcement came from AP the Men and the state of the state

### From The Durham Herald

### FRANCO'S DEEDS DENY HIS 'VIRTUES'

THE ancient phrase, "I fear the Greeks bringing gifts," might well be modified in these days by the United States Government and the American people to "I fear Franco asking gifts.

ment and the American people to 1 rear Franco asking gitts."

It is apparent from Franco's insistence that any agreement with the United States depends upon "a firm American guarantee" to equip the Spanish Army with modern armor that Franco does not have as much to offer as some would have us believe. In the second place, there may be serious question, based upon his record in World War II, of Franco's dependability Both Hitler and Mussolini contributed to Franco's rise to power in such substantial ways that his success would probably not have been achieved without such aid. But when his old friends were in trouble, Franco discretely kept out of the fight. His neutrality was of great aid to the United States and its atlies. But his record as a keeper of bargains is poor.

But his record as a beaper of bargains is poor.

The political consequences of such a treaty promise to be especially damaging to United States pressite and reputation abroad. France is the remaining Fascist dictator, the enemy, as he has repeatedly proved himself of the freedoms for which the United States stands. Aid to France will prove first of all to be American aid to maintain one of the most reactionary governments in the world, to maintain a governments which denies to its citteens the basic freedoms which recognize the dignity and worth of the individual and which practices represents on any critical or divergent view. repression of any critical or divergent view.

The United States, as the leader of the

free world, cannot afford to become an ally of such a reactionary regime as the Franco Government. To do so would give the lie to all our affirmations of belief in the principle of demogracy affecting other lands, and to the sincerity of our condemnation of the tyrannical Communist regimes. For Franco is a tyrant as deep-dyed as Stalin. To make it possible for Franco to tighten his hold on the people of Spain would be an identification of the United States with reaction so complete as to make this Nation the densair. complete as to make this Nation the despair, instead of the hope, of people who long for the benefits of freedom.

the cenerits of freedom. Such aid to Franco as he proposes would strengthen his hold on the Spanish people for a long time to come and hold them with tighter bonds in the prison of depoisim, of repression, of tyrany. Such aid would discourage the efforts of people behind the Iron Curlain to ascept their own bondage and to east their low with those who profess their belief in freedom but deny it by their action.

An African chief has been accused of sating his half-brother "to restore his prestige in the tribe". The charge is murder but we guess the defense is that after all they are only brothers under the skin.—Asheville Citizen.

Pop Hutchins, just returned from his fish ing camp: "Caught one bass but it was too small to bother with so Doc Wass and the guide helped me throw him back in the lake."—Fernandina (Fla.) News-Leader.

## End Of La Prensa Blow At Foundations Of The West

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON
THE liquidation of Le Pressa is a
this bemisphere was founded,
that bemisphere was founded,
there is a kind of desir she had
the news that the pictures of Dictator Peron and one of the
building abone was dedicated
to the search for truth.
It is not just that

Latin-American republics.

La Prena's distinction, in capacpression of forth-light opinion
rested on the right of the any
rested on the right of the individual to express an independent, that
valued to the right of the individual to express an independent, that
union, of any group or combination however powerful. Once that
right goes, then everything goes
with it and even so successful and
resupper like La Prenas comes
toppling down.
What the district.

nas cast such a bugnt on large areas of the earth, of I as Penna areas of the earth, of I as Penna in the United States but throughout the hemisphere a new and urgent sense of how vital to the whole organization of our society is the right of independent opinier and the penna of the penna o

police.

It is easy—too easy—for us here in the United States to strike an attitude of smug self-rightcousness about what has happened in Argentina. That attitude is in itself a danger since it shuts out of view

signs that point in the same proedifferetime.

For too many politices right
here at home are getting the idea
that "if you aren't for ma, then you
must be against me and there
oughts he a law." Sometimes the
more printing of news, of fact, is
taken as evidence of partianning
and therefore resented. A promiment officiencider recently is a private conversation with a reportunit officiency and the prounit officiency and the second of the
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rigans and mass mays and property of the control of

me same time established new cir-culation records.

But so was La Prensa once a rich and powerful institution. The will to destroy freedom must be met with the will to preserve it. Otherwise not even the strongest isolated institution or individual can survive.

## Some Dogs Can't Appreciate The Better Things Of Life

By ROBERT C. RUARK

By ROBERT C. RUARK

A.L. MEN make mistakes, and
A.L. MEN make mistakes, and
I concede I just made a cunch cost of the second hand plano has come to live at our house, and between the plano and the dogs viry little gate and simply. I all grand) came, I have make a cunch control to relax the second of the secon

served to Tour easts at mess and the served as the control of the

A. M. Nobody wrote down any notes, but it to unuded real cool. If a man hangs around musicans, his speech changes. One cills everybody "cat" or "pope" and goes around humming the cool of the cool of

# 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.

Editors. The News:

I HAVE before me your calendid editorial under
the caption. The shaky Foundation of Segregation." which I have read and receast. Yay are to
be commended most highly.

Last Tuesday mounts if the good and mid
Last Tuesday mounts if the good and mid
Last Tuesday mounts if the rolling of the Court
in the Negre Law School, case. North Carolina,
in the uimost of good inith has pone all cells an
effort to give the Negre all that could be shed in a
line without it has no control to the court
in the winner of good inith has pone all cells an
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shed of rive full-tiline teachers, with the cells of the fulltil infancy, the Duke and Carolina Law School
faculties gave the N. C. Collega Law School students the same high type of instruction class. So
while amarting under the ruling, I wrole
resident Gray and requested him not to advise
an appeal, saying, "Today's papers any that, you
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tensions and animoulties."

"The providence of the commentation of the Circuit Court,
if permitted to staind, means the end of enourary,
it will give the Court a further copertunity to alap
the appeal. The opinion of the Circuit Court,
if permitted to staind, means the end of enourary,
it

# Put The Muzzle On HST CONCORD

Editors, The News:

I WOULD like to take very definite exception
to your editorial headed "A Musike For Mac-

To your contestal nesseed A manual res and the Notice to the General rather sewerely to task for speaking out of turn in his recent communication to the Chinese Communication the matter of peace. Perlicularly you had reference to his suggestion that if and the contest of the sewer to have a sewer to the sewer to the

The Law School Decision

FITTBORO

Editors, The News:

FITTBORO

Editors, The Shake Funched additionable the Country of the Second of the

# The Saintly Mr. Acheson CHESTERFIELD, S. C.

He SGIRITY IVI.

CHESTERFIELD, S. C. Editors, The News.

HOW in the world did that wenderful Mr. AcheHOW in the world did that wenderful Mr. O'Dwyesa Amhessador to Mexico?

I have only been reading The Charlotte News

if ew months but it seems to me that someone
in the cortege shout your office is rather sensitive in regard to this 'great' mas, and points out.

Time's a wastin' Land O'Goeben! Great Bally
O'Fire! I'm waiting to see how The News and
Harper's explains this one to the breathless profetariat. That good old Common Mas.

You folls wouldn't be interested in backing-as.

### Setting An Example

CHARLOTTE

Editors. The News:

REMEDITE

RECENTLY I was at a school entertainment, and

RECENTLY I was at a school entertainment, and

RECENTLY I was at a school entertainment, and

Recently hear the program. Most of the parties

were there, too.

Today many boys and girls are joining churches, knowing that all they have to do is aign a card.

To prove many boys and girls are joining churches, knowing that all they have to do is aign a card.

To prove we are good church members, we must live like Christian. We can't go, out and drink and curse and gamble and call durselves

HER. HAYBER ARGUE.

-MRS. MAYME BARGER.



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

# Senate Crime Probe Continuation Need

THERE are more reasons than meet the eye why the I Kefauver crime probe should be indefinitely continued. One of them is the general letter of U. S. Altorneys. This letherapy is partly due to the system under when the system was the system of the system

FDR Tangled

ROSEVELT had the courage to tangle with the Senate
and appoint District Attorneys on the basis of ability.
But not Truman. Truman has had courage in
rouged to some judges and has bucked the Senate on the
appointment of a few judges—as in lowa with Carroll
Switzer; and as in Georgia with Neil Andrews — both opposed by Senators Gillette and Russell of these respective
states.

tes.

In regard to District Attorneys, however, Truman ried setting the pattern the same week he became Preside by bouncing the U. S. attorney in Kansas City who i jailed Boss Pendergast, Maurice Milligan—an attorney

whom he, as Senstor, had vigorously opposed, even held up his confirmation. And having blocked the confirmation of the confirm

### Pearson Names Cases

Peurson Names Cases
THERE are many fine U. S. Attorners who do bens-up
THERE are many fine U. S. Attorners who do bens-up
leaders, also many become letch their cases from political
leaders, also many become letchargic forget that it is their
job to crusade signing trime. Here are a few examples:
In Maryland, last year, alert Tressury agents had
eaught Earl Sheitli, former shertiff of Prince Georges
Cection money from the local gambling frestrenity. The
Cressury asked for income-tax prosecution, the Justice
Dept. concurred and the case was sent to U. S. Attorney
Bernard Flyns in Ballimore.
Bernard Flyns in Ballimore.
Bernard Flyns in Ballimore.
Bernard Flyns in Ballimore.
Let all the case lacked sufficient erifetices. In this instance, there was no indication that Flyns was taking a
cus from either of the Marylind Senstors, though the local
gamblers lave been lied up with part of the local Maryland machine. But for research seed DefiLeter this column published the facts regarding Earl
Sheriff, following which he confessed to taking protection
money. He pleaded guilty and no trial was necessary.

NIGHT UNIGE U. A.'S NOSE

A NOTHER seas occurred closer to home—right under the
A Justice Dept.'s nose. It involved an important member
of the Washington police force, Lt. Joseph Shimes, who
was attached to the staff of the U. S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, Morris Fry Clical police report charged
that Lt. Shimon had sapped the wires of Howard Hughes,
head of Trans-World Airlines with the wirestapping expenses paid by Sen. Owen Brewster of Maine. The police
report also showed that Shimon had roben into a bedroom occupied by the Argentine ambassador. In neither
words and the staff of the Columbia of the Shimon had color into a bedroom occupied by the Argentine ambassador. In neither
making some extra money doing private detective work on
the side.

Furthermore, Shimon had done this while working
for U. S. Attorney Fay, right under Mr. Fay's nose.

The official police report on these transpressions of

The official police report on these transgressions of the law went both to the Justice Dept. and to Mr. Fay in September, 1949. There the report proceeded to gather

september, 1999. Inere the report proceeded to gather dust.

Attorney Pay belatedly belated a single first M.S.

Attorney Pay belated a single first which protions are single first fir