

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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NATO PATCHES QUARRELS AND PLODS ALONG

TOR A while it seemed that defense pians in Europe were going all awry. The Belgians squawked about what they considered an excessive armanent burden. The French, habitual leaders of unity, reversed ourse and made their Saar representative as man basandor, which miffed the Germany, demanded equal trial manyon West Germany demanded equal trial manyon west Germany demanded equal trial continued its degree of alondriess from things continental, and Congressional shouts for high stables in forceign and reverberated scross the Atlantic. All in all, things weren't shaping up at SIAPE.

sashes in creeign aid newrbersted across the Atlanti. All in all, things weren't shaping up and the control of the control of

SIMPE, Instead of moving its operation from capital to capital. But before we make our best manners to the generals and economists at Liston it is well to remember the percaptives of legislators in these Atlantic democracies. They will ultimately make or bresk NATO and its new subsidiary, the European Defense Community. Here are some of the legislative hurdles upcoming shortly.

1. The new European army plan must be ratified by the parliaments of the six members autions.

ber nations.

2. Each legislature-must okay its country's portion of the necessary expenditures—estimated at several hundreds of billions over a three-year period.

3. The tax hike in France will have to be 3. The lax like in France and last of the fifteen, rather than ten per cent, as previously supposed, in order to raise the necessary funds. If Premier Faure's Government falls on this issue France may again be thrown into a crisis at a time when stability is

urgent.

4. Rumblings of discontent with the Adenauer Government are heard in Germany.

If, because Germans feel they are being forced to rearm to sustain a military force over which they have little control, the preserve

forced to rearm to sustain a ministry tow-over which they have little control, the pre-sent Bonn Government falls, increased Ger-mais preaclitance could be expected. Crises and argument are hallmarks of political and military progress, and they should be no cause for dismay. NATO is mov-ing forward, but its chickens can't be counted until Congressmen and members of parliaments it on, cluck over and hatch the high-priced eggs laid at Lisbon.

IT STILL LOOKS LIKE A LOOPHOLE

A RECENT editorial in The News criticized the percentage depletion 'tax previsions which affect income tax paid by olimen. The cidiorial referred to statements
critical of these provisions by Philip Starn,
writing in The Reporter, and described and
newly-established, well-furnished Petroleum
Club of House, by the President of the Peman, Fred H. McHarre, take exception to
some points in the editorial. Mr. Stern and
Sen. Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota, who
opposes present tax policy for olimen, retlerate and expand some of their arguments
against "percentage depletion."
We agree with our critic that oil exploration is a costly operation. The expanding
defilting unproductive wells, however, may be
written off against income, and properly so,
in our opition, etc. of disagreement and the
nour opition.

in our opinion.
The major point of disagreement and the crux of the matter is this: under present tax law operators of producing wells may cominue to deduct 27 1-2 per cent of the gross inceme derived from the well—not for just one year—but as long as the well operates. As Senator Humphrey points out, this pelcy allows successful producers to claim in-

come tax deductions which are many times greater than the actual depletion cost. A businessman who constructs a new plant does not receive such liberal, continuing deductions. Neither does a cab driver, who biggs a new hack, nor a farmer who acquires a new tractor.

tractor.

Now the cabbie, or farmer, or the businessman has a better chance of financial return than does the man who does not hit oil.

The oil man, if he makes no profit against which to charge the loss incurred in drilling

which to charge the loss incurred in drilling dry holes, goes in the red.

The person needful of favorable tax pro-visions, then, seems to us to be the compe-tent, but unsuccessful, eil operator. But in our opinion the successful operator should not be allowed to continue to receive, year after year, substantial tax benefits which, when compared to those of other men of similar income, allow him a substantially higher after-tax income.

gher after-tax income. The fact that Congress has not changed The fact that Congress has not changed the law in this regard does not life on the same that the law is in the best interests of the nation. The tax burnden will be more equitably distributed and we'll bet, as much oil to be the same that t

PLAYING POLITICS BY EAR

ONE of the biggest flaws in our City Government system is the failure to plan public improvements on a long-range.

Each new Administration seems to think in erms of its two-year tenure. There is im-satience to do something tangible, to get esults, to build a monument, so to speak, to the men in office at that time.

to the men in office at that time.

The planning in street, for example, is unterly without the corresponding to the continuous cont

little or nothing with the latter.

The City School Board, on the other hand, long ago found it devisable to call in professional consultants to map the expansion of the school system on the basis of futuremeds, not current needs. This minimizes the influence of neighborhood politics, and assures the ixapayer that his money will be spent where it will be best used.

Now the City Fathers we have a support to the control of the control of

Now the City Fathers are beginning to talk

about another public improvement bond issue. Nobody knows how much money will be needed, or how it will be spent. But it is asfe bet that so consult be a set to be that so consult be a set to the set of the se

consider the new public improvements pro-gram.

If the members of the Council will think back through the years and try fo recall what administration did what, they'll realize that fame is an ephemeral and passing thing. They could solve a lot of their own worries, and give the taxpayers a better only the process, if they would step thinking about this administration and look to the future.

A TRAGIC INCIDENT IN HIGH POINT

AT 1:10 P. M. Saturday a four-year-old girl darted from the sidewalk into the path an automobile in High Point. At 1:15 P. M., child's crushed and bleeding body was the emergency room of the High Point. e emergency room of the High Point orial Hospital. At 2:30 P. M., she died.

Memorial Hospital. At 230 P. M, she died.

It may be true, as High Point doctors say, that nothing could have saved her life. Even so, it is a shocking disgrace that the child had no medical attention whistower in that of the country of the critical half-hour modical mix-up.

When the country of the child arrived at the hospital. When the country of the country of

as fruitless. It takes an incident like the one in High

Point to drive home to Mecklenburgers the incateable value of the Charlotte Memorial Identities as certification of the Charlotte Memorial Identities as certify service, posting a heavy drain on the heapitally resources. And because accident victims are reashed there by ambulance from a wide geographical area, the facilities are sometimes overtaxed during peak periods. Whatesee the cert, the norrotipe of vounds.

are sometimes overtaxed during peak periods. Whatever the cost, the provision of round-the-clock emergency service, with sesident physicians and interns to give a person, immediate attention, is an essential function of the community hospital. Without it, there would be needless suffering and loss of life.

cause he's an intellectual, it doesn't follow that Mossadegh can operate a refinery.

As Jimmy Durante remarked, when he couldn't open the door, "Dat must be my Phi Beta Kappa key."—Baltimore Evening Sun.

It is positively startling to read in the pa-pers that Harold Stassen is only 44 years old. Surely he has been running for President longer than that!—Oklahoma City Okla-homon.

Morris Takes His Job Seriously, Which Makes Congress Uneasy

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

President himself.

This questionnaire will require all officials to list precisely a 11 sources of income other than Government pay, what they did for the money, and how many hours they worked to earn it. Answering this questionnaire the answers

WASHINGTON conferons any infinence-seiling official with the choice between rening the Congress who have seen bellowing most self-righteensily about Government corry up its a strong the construction of the control Triman has asked Congress to grant Morris, and which only Congress can grant, are so, all important.

TRUMAN SERMS FACER
The pat Triman has played in The pat Triman has played in the search of the s

Whodunits Hit A New Low---Now They're Really Pulp

By ROBERT C. RUARK

THE LITERARY output of I people who write the wnounter-for the two-bit paperbacks is as vast as ever, but either I am get-ting much older or the writing is getting much lousier. Maybe both.

getting much lousier. Mayes com.
We had a Golden Age of the de-tective story a few years back, af-er Dashiell Hammett invented the private-eye and the tough-cite school of myster and the school of myster and the school of th

character.

But the imitators took over and defliged the formula, until I am bejinning to wish that Mr. Hammett and Mr. Chandler had never popularized the brutal beating and the cold killing and the kins-'em-first-and-killi-em-later method of cealing with dames, shameless hussies though they be. The eager institutors have coarsened the tough services in the second into a faturous farce.

school into a fatuous faree.

The newest itian of the belly-shooting breec of private eyes in a young fellow named Mickey Spillane, who turns out epica shout private the lasterning rapidity of a rabbit preparing for Easteride. The gory exploits of Mr. Hammer sell like foolproof formulas for making months of the property of the prope

LIKES TO SHOOT 'EM

Mr. Hammer likes to kill people, largely, I gather, as other men fancy golf and stamp-collecting. Mr. Hammer is impatient with the cops, who are too slow and stupple to please him, so he fans his big 48 and shoots everybody who ruffes him. Sometimes he shoots off

NEW YORK their faces. If he dislikes them very output of the the whodunits bett buckle, so that they will have a painful little period of sin contemplation.

templation.

Chieffy, though, Mr. Hammer really likes to shoot dames, although he professes a certain finicky distaste for dealing distaffeath, Mr. Hammer is all the time getting tide up with dames who reed killing, so his lack of hestancy in alapping a wide of hestancy in alapping a few distancy in alapping a few distancy in alapping a winter than the control of the control of

to the Southern school of chivalry. But before Mr. Hammer shoots them he falls in love with them, or they with him, and I regret to say that Mr. Hammer has set of morals that might gas a gard, He is a bepushover, with the classification of the same should be supported by the same should be given by the same s

THORAY, THRORRER

THORAX-THEOBER
Ther is something peculiar in
Mr. Hammer's chemistry that is
affects ladies that they immediately
begin to strain at their garments and heave mightly in the vicinity
of the thorax. Between kinds
Mile is always tired and generally
drunk. The only living man who is
trieder than Mile, at the end of the
book, is me, and it think his amours
alsughters, murders, and self-appointed executions.

But the advance of Man Self-ap-

pointed executions.

But the doings of Mr. Michael Hammer sell in the millions, so I guess the people who pillage the magazine stands in the stations and airports know what they want — a half-and-half blend of stark sex, solid sadism, and bum writine.

People's Platform

Oilmen's Tax Rate

Cill Development Costs A Lot BOUSTON Editors. Tax News:

Note last paragraph of your editorial on performance of the performanc

what is reverge. A would asset the Petroleum Club ably more than 50 miles are working for a salary either in the oil business or in business related to it.

The original initiation fee was \$200 pint ax both has since been raised to \$750 pints ax. I am sure the salary of the control of \$750 pints ax. I am sure the salary of the membership of the Club and each of the membership of the Club and each of the membership of the Club and each club. I respectfully call to your attention that are salary of the salary of the

P. S. As an appendage to this letter, I would like to give you this further information. Seventy-six per cent of the new oil discoveries are discovered by indeemedents who have no major oil company connections.

Depletion is even the conditional of the contract of the new oil discoveries are discovered by indeemedents who have no major oil company connections.

In pention of the gas as it is reorduced and as it is not gas as the condition of the conflict of the oil business come from the the profits of the oil business come from the contract of the conflict of the oil business come from the gas and sales.

Excessive Deductions

Editors, Tor News:

IT was a pleasure to read your editorial on percentage depletion. There is no doubt in my mind burnel of the percentage depletion. There is no doubt in your position is a correct one and in while interest. Mr. Stern's article to which ton referred in your editorial certainly supports that position.

in the public interest. Mr. Stern's article to which you referred in your editorial certainly supports that position.

In the public of the public of the period of the pe

Careful Congressional Review

Why Not Subsidy?

Why Not Subsidy?

MASHINGTON

Editors, Tree News:

YOU may be interested to know that my article
or taxes has already been subjected to considerable criticism by the petroleum industry, largely as a result of a newsletter published the
ready of the considerable criticism by the petroleum industry, largely as a result of a newsletter published the
ready of the control of the control of the control of the
ready of the control of the control of the control of the
ready of the control of the control of the control
taxed much chance of becoming an honorary member of the Petroleum Chib of Houston.
Your correspondent (Mr. McIntyre) is correct in
saying that the percend thot our tax laws in 1926,
and that it was not changed by the 1931 tax bill.
However, you are more than technically correct
in saying that the new tax law "included reference
to percentage depletion." It added some in the
percentage depletion, and doubled the depletion allowance (from five to the per cent) for coal, although
the United States has known coal reserves which
when the control of the coal of the control
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and the united States has known coal reserves which
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and the united States has known coal reserves which
when the coal of the coal of the coal
and the privilege to the new ones. This illustrates
one of the characteristics of two "longhois"s namely,
once they are opened, they have an irreastable foror of has been "carefully fair to stafe, as your
correspondent does, that the percentage depletion
for oil has been "carefully reviewed over a price
of an account of the coal of the coal
and expenses involved in exploring for oil. The expenses of drilling a "dry bode" maybe fully written
of against income, before taxes are computed, which
and expenses involved in exploring for oil. The expenses of drilling a "dry bode" maybe fully written
of against income, before taxes are

Editors, Tax News:

MAY. I call your attention to your editorial in The News under the heading "Depicted a size writing is a size of size of the data on the person with the locale of the personeum club to which your effect; therefore, I cannot comment on that. Creat of the content of the co

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

REAL fact about President Truman's inner debate with himself over the question of "to-run-on-not-to-run" is that it's intimately tied up to General Eisenhower, It's tike a seeaw. The more Eisenhower's political strength goes down, the more Truman's inclination to run goes up.

goes down, the more Truman's inclination to run goes up-proximately one month ago the President had def-initely decided he would not permit himself to be drafted. In his own mind this was categorical, and to one or two of his most intumate triends, he so of Eisenhower would be the time, however, he time, become fixed the most of the pro-pagability of the control of the control of the con-pression of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the control of the control of the con-trol of the control of the contro

Since then, however, the political scouts, both Re-bilican and Democratic, report that Eisenhower's organ-stion is limping and that the General, though having emendous popular appeal, is in the hands of an inept oup who can't translate popular appeal into delegates.

As a result, the President has been toying with the idea of running again—first, because he is itching to take on Bob Talt whom he thinks he can lick; second, because the palace guard is cleverly cooking him up as the indis-

Sage Chief Justice

O'N the other hand, no less a personage than Chief Justice Fred Vinson, one of the closest friends the President has and in his day a shread political observer, has been spending some time at the White House strongly advising Mr. Truman not to run.

The Chief Justice took this move after a talk with Speaker Sam Rayburn. Both men have a great affection for the President, and both are in a far better position to gauge the political winds than the palace guard.

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The Chief Justice's argument has been an appealing one—namely, that Truman's place in history on the major of the plaint of the plaint of the plaint of the major of the plaint of the plaint

common man.

But if the President ran and were defeated, the Chief
Justice has argued, he would jeopardize all that he has
won-especially his foreign policy. Furthermore, even if he
ran and won, he would face a split in his own Party which
might endanger his foreign policy.

Palace Guard Protects Jobs

On the other hand, the men immediately around the President, most of whom are rabidly intent on keeping the product of the produ

WASHINGTON

e, however, he irrum expected institution updates for ing ike, not only because he personally made a ple help like become President but also because he ded like as unbeatable.

Ike's Ebb Spurs Truman's Inclination