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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1946

The Sound Of The Silent Citizens

We note that the new organization, "Silent Citizens," which so far has chosen to hide out behind a dummy address, is now revealing its true identity...

Off hand, we can't recall an organization of professed high purpose getting off to a worse start. In the first place the people who chose for themselves a completely anonymous...

The automatic and immediate reaction of a large segment of the public to a secret, or anonymous, organization bent on furthering a political revolution is bound to be unfavorable.

The peculiar thing about this is that the vague and ambiguous statements contained in the recruiting letter could not possibly reflect upon the integrity of any citizen.

Heaven knows this is a respectable opinion, one that goes at least as far back as Alexander Hamilton. It is voiced, in infinite variation, by thousands of Americans every morning, and sometimes

even in the afternoon. It is, as a matter of fact, a fundamental plank in the platform of one of the two major American political parties, the one that is even now moving into power in Washington.

Oh, the Republicans have their professional politicians, of course, but so will the Citizens have to have if they are serious about filling all available public offices with businessmen.

In all seriousness we commend to the Citizens the moribund Republican organization that exists, largely for patronage purposes, in the State of North Carolina.

The Citizens, with their somewhat childish secrecy, have already done their cause great harm. But if they stop playing cops and robbers and launch a serious effort to save the Republican Party of North Carolina...

We are prepared to support any movement that would end the debilitating hypocrisy of a system that requires a citizen who thinks Republican to vote Democratic.

He Loves Her In December . . .

WHAT with one thing and another, the press for some years has been letting the wedding anniversaries of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor slip by without even routine comment.

This week the Duke and Duchess celebrated their tenth anniversary with a modest little press conference at the Waldorf. International News Service described the royal couple as "radiantly happy" and quoted their announcement that they intend to do so over again they'd do it in a split fifty.

We note, however, that the years take a toll of royal flesh even as they do of common clay. In the anniversary photographs the Duchess' neck shows the folds of middle-age; the Duke's eye pouches now make his look as Fred Allen once said of himself, as though he were peering out through two dirty pincups balls.

Another Voice

'A Lovely State Of Things . . .'

WHISKY-DRINKING in "dry" Charlotte, N. C., has reached such scandalous heights that Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn has blamed the "free flow of illegal liquor" there for the "appalling crime situation."

All of Western North Carolina has adopted statutory verbiage affecting the manufacture and sale of distilled spirits, but the unquenchable flows over, under and around the region. Judge Burgwyn, who ought to know, spoke of Charlotte's national reputation as a center of crime, and mentioned the contrast between the "church activity" and its "promiscuous lawlessness."

General Electric discovers that blizzards can be produced as desired. It is an older art, that went out when "Way Down East" last played the one-night stands.

The class struggle (Marxist division): In Moscow a party organ denounces the Soviet swimming stars for leading lives "alien to Soviet ideology."

A later model of the new vending machine which dispenses a hot dog in a bun will, perhaps, be hooked to the juke box, thus putting the torch singer to useful employment.

subjects of the Duke's younger brother. We wonder if the Duke and Duchess, who never worried about their past, feel any less than a million years hence. Even in this republic they still enjoy their royal prerogatives—he by birth, she by marriage.

But even adulation and luxury pall after a while. The Duke has shown signs of belated ambition lately. Unsatisfied with his war-time assignment as an ornament to the Governor's Palace in Bermuda, he recently returned to England to seek other suitable employment, but all he got from his royal relations and the current Labor Government was a blunt suggestion that travel is broadening.

So, INS informs us, Wallie and Eddie have turned to the simple life. The Duchess cooks their Sunday night suppers there in the Waldorf Towers, and the Duke walks the tumblers on the beach, following the pattern of the future for those aging romantics, and it's not a bad one. Spurious domesticity in a \$500-a-week hotel suite suits them very well; he is the happy ending to the love story of an anachronism.

that "more than 10,000 court cases annually involving public drunkenness, drunken driving and allied offenses traceable to excessive use of alcohol" are passing through Charlotte's courts.

It's a lovely state of things, and one which ought to be a warning to that minority of Virginians who still imagine that voting "dry" will do anything but create an army of bootleggers, law-breakers and hypocrites, while channeling into the pockets of the criminal element large revenues from the sale of highways and other public utility purposes.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

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People's Platform Grandfather's Spared Trees

ROANOKE, VA. My venture to suggest that unfortunately you have entirely misconstrued the information sent out respecting the Grandfather Mountain and in particular the really fine report of existing conditions as given by Mr. Davis in the Charlotte News.

The big thing is to put the Grandfather Mountain Park project across, and should we not all join vigorously in this program? I fear severe criticism of the National Park Service is less than necessary.

The Blue Ridge Parkway and the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks are in a way the backbone of the Government's national park policy. The Parkway is in the throes of construction with many difficulties and hindrances to overcome.

"To clear the atmosphere" I am sending a copy of this letter to the State and War Departments. I received most encouraging and co-operative letters from a number of prominent North Carolinians, which give me the belief and confidence that I can raise the necessary funds for purchase of the Linville Company property as well as the other desired projects. I am sure that I can meet the need.

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The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be less than 300 words, typewritten if possible, and should be sent to the Editors, The News, 100 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh, N. C. Labels and address will be deleted—otherwise anything goes. Each letter must be signed, although, in exceptional cases and upon request, we will withhold the writer's name.—Editors, The News.

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Drew Pearson: U. S. Will Lend Billion To Rebuild Reich

WASHINGTON In 1935, emotional, likeable New York banker James Warburg, publisher of Franklin Roosevelt's weekly book "The New York Times," was named as the author of a "Hit-Bent For Election" castigating the financial policies of the President in whose Brain Trust he had served.

Today, some insiders think Jimmy Warburg, one of the nation's leading financiers, is preparing a new book: "Hit-Bent For Rebuilding Germany," one again highly recommended by John Foster Dulles, with the State Department's approval, passionately bent on making Germany a strong buffer state against the onrush of Russian Communism.

In 1932, just a few months before Hitler came into power, the Nazis, Jimmy Warburg dined with a group of Jewish grocers in Germany. One secretly financing Hitler to be a bulwark against Communism. And while Warburg—as far as this writer knows—did not participate in that financing, he has since then been a strong proponent of the American public that Germany was a sound investment.

short-term credits—which would have been their direct loss. But the long-term loan, held by the American investment banks, would have been theirs. And it is a source of regret that the supply of reprints prepared shortly after the war has long since been exhausted.—Eds., The News.

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Navy Dumps Food

IT has just leaked out that last June, while the butcher shops were nearly empty and housewives were begging for meat, the Navy buried over 82,000 pounds of meat and fish. The Navy's surplus of food was so large that it was sold to the public at a loss. The Navy's surplus of food was so large that it was sold to the public at a loss.

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Political Parable

WASHINGTON There men around President Truman have been so busy with the politics of the moment that they have not had time to think about the future of the country.

IDENTICAL PARTIES If the Democrats in the White House take on too much protective coloration, it will not be possible for the ordinary citizen to tell them from Republicans.

WISFUL PADDING While department heads do some padding in their reports, the Budget Bureau with its estimates, they are presumably more honest.

ONE WAY That is one way to face an emergency. The executive branch is the one that is most likely to be in the line of fire.

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