

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS Drew Pentron

HARRY S. ASHMORE
Associate Editor

The Tender Promise of the President's State of the message was decidedly old hat, budget estimate with which he d it is, after more than a decade

larded it is, after more than a decade of deficit financing, almost startling.

The Truman believes, on the basis of figures now at hand, that the United states can live within its income during the next fiscal year.

Already there are critics, in Congress and elsewhere, who are questioning the post and elsewhere, who are questioning the President's mathematics. Senator Taff, as might be expected, claims that his statistics are erroneous, and off his own of the control of the contr

salastics are erroneous, and off his own our estimates that the nation will sund up some \$10 billion in the red, instead of reducing the wast national debt by 7 billion as Mr. Truman predicts.

This division of opinion, partition though it may be, is quite understandable, for budget estimates are highly tenuous. Mr. Truman is balancing estimated expenditures against estimated income for a 12-months period beginning six months from now, and there are all sorts of imponderables that might throw his calculations off. Mr. Roosevelt, for instancer managed to hit welt, for instance; managed to hit the nail on the head only once, in his estimate for fiscal 1940, and even his estimate for fiscal 1940, and even though his critics have always insisted that he couldn't count up to twenty with his shoes off, his budget estimates were supported by the best available financial brains.

A sudden reduction in the national income can knock the most consci-entious budget estimate into a cocked

hat; 225 per cent of the \$31 1-2 billion income Mr. Truman foresees is derived from individual Income taxes. 64 per cent from corporation income taxes, and 114 per cent from excess profit taxes, and if depression sets in the total yield is bound to shrink. Then, as the President warned, a sudden pre-election tax reduction by Congress would also make any current income estimate. also make any current income estimate ingless

Still, it is encouraging to hear a Presi-Still, it is encouraging to hear a President calling for a balanced budget again after all these years. It is quite true that Government finance campt properly be compared with private finance, but even the most advanced of the Big Government advocates believe that the deficit is nearing the ultimate limit. And this boom-time is, as Mr. Truman observed, the proper moment to curtial Federal expenditures and start hacking ways at the national debt.

Federal expenditures and start harefully away at the national debt.

But, even as a rosy glow spreads over conservative circles at the sound of this tender promise of budget-balancing. It is well to remember that it involves a continuation of present high tax rates. Curtailment of Federal services may help but our tax burden grows out of the past as well as the future. Although most Americans seem to be trying hard to forget that we ever had one we still have not met the staggering cost of the last war, and we have trying hard to forget that we ever had one we still have not met the staggering cost of the last war, and we have yet to feel the impact of the advance payments that will soon be demanded for the next one.

Stringfield & Briarhopper

The announcement that the Charlotte Symphony and the Briathoppers will play a joint concert next week is only a few days old, but already outraged mutterings from the top strata of the town's music-lovers have filtered down to our own level.

The musical gentry, we gather, is outraged because (1) Lamar Stringfield, the composer, invited an aggregation of the composer, invited an aggregation of radio hilbility to play the raw material that went into his Lepend of John Henry, and (2) Conductor Guy Hutchins of the Charlotte Symphony agreed to lend him the orchestra to follow Pappy and the Boys with a conventional rendition of the symphonic ballad.

The score-holders, who consider a new contract of the contract of the

ballad.

The score-holders, who consider any-thing lighter than Wagner profane and who object to letting an honest hill-billy pluck his guitar in the same hall with a bassoonist, are a tiny minority, but they wield an influence far out of proportion to their numbers. The gentry's curred lip might, in fact, put a blight on the concert that would hardly be offset by the raucous cheers of the Briarhopper fans who will folow Pappy into the Armory. Still, as Mr. Stringfield points out,

arlotte Symphony can never be an influence in community life so long as it is shackled by the taste of a cultivated handful, who, by indirection, limit its repertoire to standard symphonic works. His simple demonstration of the manner in which he worked folk music into a serious composition should, regardless of the quality of the performance, stimulate the interest of the lightly-cultured upon whose favor the Symphony ultimately de-

favor the Symphony ultimately depends.

We have previously praised the relaxed manner in which Conductor Hutchins puts his orchestra through its paces, expressing the opinion that the loosely-organized orchestra, which struggles along with virtually no financial support from the community, can afford almost anything but pretentiousness. Moreover, we have an idea that Mr. Hutchins' informality will go a long way toward battering down the esoteric conventions that have served as a barrier between serious music barrier between serious music as a barrier and the people.

The charge that Messrs. Stringfield and Hütchins are pandering to the popular taste when they invite the Briarhoppers to share the Armory with them strikes us as a specious argument, indeed. We regard the combination as a happy one, filled with the promise of

a pleasant evening. Hit it, Hutch! Take it away, Pappy Briarhopper! Send us, Stringfield!

Friends Of The Public

Congress listening to the anguished cries of constituents who can't buy automobiles, pyjamas and nylon stockautomobiles, pyjamas and nylon stock-ings, is hardly in the mood to approach the revision of existing labor laws in an impartial manner. As a result the usual degrall will probably be staged in both Houses once the FEPC filluster is over, with union-busting Congress-ment trying to outlaw the practice of collective bargaining and pro-labor members struggling to maintain the present favorable legislative structure.

It is unfortunate that extremists or th sides always seem to dominate Congressional debate on labor matters A calm, dispassionate review Wagner Act and its corollary laws is

Wagner Act and its corollary laws is very much in order, not with the idea of punishing either party to the current strike wave, but to clarify the status of labor unions.

The balance of economic power, which so heavily favored the employer at the time of the passage of the Wagner Act, is about even now; the unions have attained political influence equal to that of the corporations, and they have lately begun to extend their activities into a good many extra-curricular malters. a good many extra-curricular matters not directly concerned with their eco-

nomic interests.

A case in point is the strike threat used by Michael Quill of the Transport. Workers Union to force the New York City Council into line on a purely political matter—the sale of city-owned power plants. Mr. Quill, in addition to heading the Transport Workers, is a member of the New York City Council, and ic interests.

he opposed the sale. But, unlike other Councilmen who could only cast a single vote, Mr. Quill threatened to call his transit workers off the job and completely paralyze the City if the matter

pletely paralyze the City if the matter were not submitted to the people by referendum. Yesterday Mayor O'Dwyer reluctantly agreed.

This is an intolerable situation, as intolerable as if a Councilman who also happened to be president of a private power company threatened to shut off the City's electricity because he wanted his tax rate reduced. Yet the Mayor found that there is no law State or Federal, to restrain Mr. Quill from backing his vote in Council with a transit strike.

Few labor leaders have demonstrated

Few labor leaders have demonstrated such "an utter poverty of public con-science," as The New York Times termed it, but Mr. Quill's success may well set a precedent. Certainly it will serve the

a precedent. Certainly it will serve the union-busters well as a horrible example of union Irresponsibility.

The defenders of the present labor laws pose as "friends of labor," and insist that any check on the growth of union power violates basic democratic principles. The attackers are, whether they accept the label or not, "enemies of labor" whose simple goal is a restoration of the big business community to its old unchallenged engineers. Sometion of the big business community to its old unchallenged eminence. Some-where there must be some "friends of the public" to stand between these fwo forces and remind all concerned that this republic can survive only by pre-venting an excessive accumulation of power in the hands of any minority, corporate or organizational.

From The Anderson Independent:

Those Professional Sponsors

If you know one of those fellows who

If you know one of those (ellows who likes to join organizations, you might tip him off to the "Society For the Prevention of World War III."

The Independent learned about this erganization the other day when it got a letter from its New York offices. The jetter was heavily weighted on the left hand side by a long list of "cammitteemen."

Many of the names are familiar, be-ause we've been seeing them in the ame place for a long, long time—on he left hand side of letterheads listed

as committeemen.

But about this new organization:
Presumably, its name states its p

Presentation, its name states its purpose.

The prewar "National Council for Prevention of War" didn't do so well, as witness recently concluded events.

And we hope the new society has much better success.

better success.

But we've got our fingers crossed.

Organizations with heavy left-hand
columns of professional sponsors of this
or that, on their letterheads always
leave us a little wary.

War Department Is Due For A

New Boss Soon

Meaw Boss Soon

Washington

I sent being advertised, but if
newly appointed Stuart Symingtion makes good as Assistant Secretary of War.

Fishington of War,

Fishi

oers with labor.

In Washington, Symington has surprised earlier critics by his forthright handling of the extremely difficult surplus property snat. Once of the last things he district was to force the Aluminum Corporation of America to turn over its patents to the Government.

ment.
On the surface, Alcoa's of-fer looked like a magnanimous gesture, but behind the scenes it took some lough talking by Sym-ington and Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge to put it MELLON'S MONOPOLY

MELLON'S MONOPOLY
The Alumium Corporation, which
made the late Andrew Mellon one
of the three richest men in
America, had long enjoyed an airight monopoly, was exposed by
the Justice Department for combrings with the Germans to curtail in the airplant microscopic
lat to the airplant microscopic
late to the airplant microscopic
late to the airplant microscopic
hand over Alcas's head.

This was the weapon used by Symington and Berge to bludgeon Alcoa into sharing its aluminum patents.

natents.

During the war, Alcoa produced aluminum in Government-owned plants, but, thanks to the vigilance of the Justice Department and Secretary lekes, a policy was declared whereby Alcoa could not increase its monopoly by acquiring these plants after the war.

ouring tiese plants are: tusy
The problem, however, was
to find another buyer to operate
the Government plants—especially since this buyer would
not have aluminum patents.
Louis Reynolds of the Reylade over two large plants in
Arkansas, but he could not
operate without using Aleoa's
lime-sinter-soda patents. And
Alcoa was only willing to rent
thought the could not
problem to the could not
pr

Alcoa was only willing to tent
these patients at probibilite
these patients at probibilite
Pinally, about ten days ago, Arthur Davis, head of Alcoa, was
summoned to the office of Atcharter and the patients of the Alcoa, and Leon Rickman, abo of the
RFC, plus Wendell Berge. Ernest
Meyers, and Irving Lajbzoutz, ali
of the anti-trust safe who hours,
Alcoa's Davis and Altorney Hickman did most of the talking. They
ropped first that they would give
their lime-sunter-sold process to
Government would drop its antitrust case. Assistant Autorney General Berge, however, safe "No"
Berge is a mild -mannered man,
but just as tenacious as he hate
state of Nebraska he comes.
Then the Alcoa executives proposed to barter their patents for
the right to build new factories
of their own. This is forbidden
Symington is just as mildBerge said court ruling, Agein
Berge said court ruling, Agein
Berge said court ruling, Agein
Berge said on so the Alcoa of the Berge said on the Rege and the Berge said on a Berge, but can be

serge said no.

Symington is just as mild-mannered as Berg, but can be just as tough. At one point he warned Davis:

"There's nothing to prevent us from going ahead and using your patents anyway."

"Wed as ue you," replied the Alcoa head.
"So what"

Alcoa head.
"So what," shot back Symington. "What are patents except the right to bring a suit."

except the right to bring a suit."

The meeting ended in a atalemate. Next day, Alcoa's executives appeared in Symmetro's executives appeared in Symmetro's a practice of a guaranteed royally. Symmetro's a result of an an Erge, Alcoa's patents, for years an artigant mone of), were turned over to the Government for the use of its competition of the competition of the competition of the competition. Symmetry of Warner and the symmetry of Warner and the symmetry of Warner and the symmetry of Warner and Symmetr

omminate his Democratic son iniaw in the War Department.

TAFT VS. COMMUNISM
Senator Robert Taft of Ohio
has just lost a one-man war he
has been dataging to control a
mater—Yale.

Taft has been moving heaven
and earth to prevent Tom Emerson, coomed for the Economic
as professor on the Yale faculty,
ven going so far as to tip off
Radio Commentator Fulton Lewis
to Taft's oppetition was that
Emerson was a New Dealer, a
radical, and a lot of other horid
things—possibly—even a Communist.

It Seems There Were Once Two Great Parties



Dorethy Thompson

The True Face Of The Peace

OBJECT OF PLEDGE

I have underscored the references
to the Iran Government, because
now we are told it is inclined to
corruption and is not progressive,
properly democratic or what not,
all of which is possible but irrelevant, since it is the same Government to which the pledge was given.

ment to which the pledge was given. The object of the pledge was, of course, to end the perennial status of Iran as a football of power politics, between Great Britain and Russia. No country ever has been, or ever can be, well governed, when it is an object of great power loot. Now, every item of the Teheran

The True Face Of The Peace

NEW YORK

IT is really tactless of the Iranian Government to susgest training its case before the first meeting of UNO. It might was to find the same of UNO. It might was to find the war in a cook them. The three Governments of the U. S. A. and the common common. The three Governments of the U. S. A. and the common common. The three Governments of the U. S. A. and the common common. The three Governments of the U. S. A. Solve was realisting to the war in a cook in the war in a cook in the war in the case of the unit of t

of Representatives, and a get musbecause of his prejudiced letter
concerning less. They're human
Just because the Jews are smart
and are money-makers. I think
Mr. Davis it sellous because the
program of the proper shall be a sellous
work for themselves, which they
should be given credit for being
smart also states he is an American,
which I doubt very much, as a
true American has no ill will towards another class of people.

In reading J. F. W. Davis letter in the Jan. 19 Issue. I can help but laugh and get mad at the same time at his siley appears for itself when the same the same that the same of Representatives, and I get mad because of his prejudiced letter concerning Jews. They re human find the same to be same thing over here, and and are money-makers. I think Mr Davis is jealous because he probably has to work for a living for sin employer whereas the dot the same thing over here, and should be given credit for being samart.

He also states he is an American.

was fought.

—SOL BADAME.
P. S. I ain't no Jew, but am an
American of Italian descent and
proud of it.
(NOTE: Mr. Badame is a fightling man. He used a gun in the
Army; now he uses his fists in the
local prize ring—Eds. The News.)

Complaint From A Scrap-Book Keeper

PAW CREEK.
For years I have been a daily reader of The Charlotte News, and I think it well descries the title of "livest newspaper in the Carolinas."

However, the back page, which is to me and to others like me the most valuable part of the paper, is going of per cent to waste. The splendid material, such as 'The splendid material, such as 'The Hardell, Elbeth Woodward, Dorothy Knox, and C. A. Paul, should be printed in equal columns as it the "Everyday Counselor" so that it could be preserved in scrapbook.

in scrapbooks.

To put it in a strictly business sense—why spend thousands of dollars to secure the life's work of life's work

-G. G. Clark (NOTE: We are moved by the knowledge that the transitory words of our columnists have such appeal for Mr. Clark and we would have the saffled by certain immutable type-graphical laws. As the post-war NEWS continues to take shape, however, maybe well find a way.—Eds., THE NEWS.)

Marquis Childs The President's Off-Hand View

suestion concerning U. S., policy on treatments of the season and mandated territories, ships for bases and mandated territories.

SENATORS STAND

A story was whipped up suggesting that a group of Senators were determined that the United Nations should not have the right to say whether the United States that the United Nations should not have the right to say whether the United States strategic. To put it another way, they would deny UNO even the face-sand device of approving our "request." They would deny UNO even the face-sand even to the same group of Senator who sent out to, the United Nations Conference in San Francisco to make sure American bases were not internationalized. A subcommitted to the United Nations Conference in San Francisco to make sure American bases were not internationalized. A subcommitted to the United Nations Conference in San Francisco to make sure American bases were not internationalized. A subcommitted to the United Nations Conference in San Francisco to the United Nations Conference in San Co

fore. I would not oppose any treaty because of island control.

NATIONALIST VIEW

Of the other three Sensiors. Capehart takes an extreme nationalist position on most issues. So does Eastland. Byrd, an ultra-conservative in matters of foreign and consetts, sould not allow any interference by an extreme the sould not allow any interference of the control of Russia comes when Russia takes an estimate and and says that strategis and entirely and the control of the contro

Samuel Grafton

Law-Givers Or World-Makers?

NEW YORK OTHING could be more typical of

NEW YORK

Implies the more typical of Souriet
the Would Pedera the Souriet proposal that
the United Nations, and an actinal voice on the Economic
has horrifed several weaterin delegates, who point
out, a little shaken, that
the United Nations Organand the Souriet Souriet of Institute of organizations;
how can a labor federation
set down beauld sovereign
that the United Nations Organization
that the United Nations Organization
that the United Nations Organization
set of Institute of organizations;
how can a labor federation
set the protocol governing
communication between them?

Soviet disregard of these formal and
legal difficulties is, as I say, characteristic; the Russians, considering only what
they if mades so sone that a world organization should include a world labor body;
and, once again a clash between west and
cast takes the by now familiar form of
an atom assertails and the second of the second organization
to the Souriet of the Souriet of the Souriet
To the typical western legal objection that,
if a labor organization were admitted, a
precedent would be set by which bridge
one protocology of the second of the second of the second organization
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THE WORLD-MAKERS



civilians again—but they just don't have sm and reckless abandon they had on 5-day furloughs!"