SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1946

# Robert Best, Southerner

The Southerner, Southerners insist, is a unique animal, the product of a special breed. His blood lines are purer than those of Americans born in less favored regions. His roots are deep in a proud past. He is a natural aristocrat, no matter how humble his station, and it shows in his soft voice and instinctive court-esy. And, above all, the Southerner i

in his soft voice and instinctive contressy. And, above all, the Southerner is a not-blooded patriot, eternally ready to answer the call to duty.

This fancy is a comfort to a region that lacks in material goods, but it can be harmful. It leads us into a strangling provincialism and convinces us we have a destiny independent of the United States. Perhaps it is good for us to consider one of our own who has mannaged to pervert the virtues we claim for every man fortunate enough to be born south of the Mason-Dixon Line.

Robert Best is a South Carolinate and a graduate of Wolford College. He is:

Robert Best is a South Carolinate of graduate of Wolford College. He is:

raws a newspaperman of considerable promise, a foreign correspondent when had done well in the Balania. He became an advocate of Adolph Hitler's

racial ideals. He was arrested this week by army authorities and charged with treason.

Those who knew Best say he, like John Those with Kimer best asy the fine Sonin Amery and William Joyce, was a true believer in the Nazi faith. He made a great personal sacrifice to join Hitler's cause, and did so willingly because he regarded it as a crusade against the twin evils of Communism and Jewry.

twin evils of Communism and Jewry.

It may be that Best, like Ezra Pound,
will plead insanity as a defense. And
perhaps it would be a justified defensea clever lawyer might well trace the
beginnings of his mania to the Carolina
weather in which he grew, demonstrating that the void between the Southern
ideal of White Supremacy and the racial
theories of Adolph Hittler is not as great
as we like to think it is.

Whatever his defense, however his hameful story ends, every Southerner hould read it and remember it. No shameful story ends, every Southerner should read it and remember it. No-insanity plea can clear our conscience; he is still one of us, even though he abandoned our regional virtues and

#### Plain Bad Judgment

Mayor O'Dwyer's decision to close Mayor, O'Dwyer's decision to close down New York because of the tug-boat strike may well have been unwarrant-ed; such, at least, is the opinion of two such diverse interests as the New York Board of Trade and the left-wing news-

But, however poor the Mayor's judg-

paper, P.M.

But, however poor the Mayor's Judgment may have been, the fact remains that a disagreement between 3.500 tug-boat operators and less than 100 owners isolated the largest city in the western hemisphere for some days and worked a great hardship on 7,000.000 defenseless citizens. The issue here, as in the transit strike in Philadelphia and the power company strike in Pittsburgh. Is far more important than the wages and working conditions of a few thousand union members.

Those who find a Communist under the bed almost every time they look are already busy pointing out that the three strikes were part of a great radical conspiracy. This is as ridiculous as it usually is. The tug-boat workers belong to an AF of L Union led by a right-wing labor boss. The Philadelphia strike was the handlwork of a CIO Union. The Pittsburgh strikers belonged to an independent organization. No bewhiskered conspirator pressed the buttom for these paralyzing strikes—they are the product of the bad indement of the result of the part of t paralyzing strikes—they are the product of the bad judgment of three union bad judgment of three union

We say had judgment because, no matter how sound their case against their employees, these workers have alienated public sympathy and provided

ammunition for their enemies. Because they were employed in key jobs, they were able to obtain the effect of a general strike. And a general strike, effective as it may be in the short fiaul, has always proved a boomerang for labor.

In 1928 British miners had been on strike for months, and had the sympathy of the general public. Then the British Trades Union Congress made the miner's cause the basis of a nation-wide central strike and before the reverberations had died away Parliament enacted legislation outlawing general strikes and even sympathy strikes, and placing stringent restrictions upon the activities of all unions.

stringent restrictions upon the activi-ties of all unions.

The New York, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh strikes have already started groundswells running in the Senate, which will soon be considering the Case

which will soon be considering the Case
Bill. A good many Senators are reportedly falling in line with a proposal to
amend the bill by adding to it a broad
compulsory arbitration clause. Pro-Labor Senators, who had hoped to whittle
the Case Bill down, now find themselves
fighting to prevent its extension.

We remarked the other day that there
is strong precedent for specifying compulsory arbitration in any industry classifled as a public utility. This would
outrage a few thousand unlon members,
perhaps, but it seems preferable to outraging a few million private citizens.
And, from labor's own standpoint it
would be far better to deprive a handfull of workers of their right to strike ful of workers of their right to strike than to stand by while the rights of all union members are abridged.

## Measure Of Desperation

A hundred thousand army cooks powder that, according to a note on the container, had once been a dozen fresh eggs. They added water, as pre-scribed. They tried canned milk instead. fresh eggs. They added water, as pre-scribed. They tried canned milk instead. They affed in grated cheese, put in felly, peanut butter, even cognac in the hope that an omelette might re-sult. In never did—no matter what adchemy they attempted the same soggy, unpalatable mess. appeared inevitably in the skillet. We would be the last to Insist that

army cooks were masters of the culinary art; most of them, of course, were plumbers by trade. But somewhere among the hundred thousand the law of averages placed a handful of trained of averages placed a handful of trained chefs, men of imagination and skill who knew a bay leaf when they saw it. And they also failed; their best efforts proved only that the powdered egg will sustain life. .

Without question, the powdered egg

Without question, the powdered egg held a secure first place in the little black books compiled by the members of the various American Expeditionary Forces. Spam, second leutenants, our various allies—these were minor irritations alongside the gelid mass that plopped dismally into 8,000,000 messkits at 3:30 each morning. It became a symbol of suffering and shame

that will live in the veteran's memory long after the terror and the glory of his career in arms has faded. But in the British Isles, in the year

of Our Lord 1946, the powdered egg has become one of the most cherished items in the diet of a victorious nation. When lend-lease shipments ran out a few weeks ago and the yellow powder disappeared from the ration list (one package per family per month) thousands of British housewives addressed violent complaints to the Ministry of Food. There were public demonstrations, pickinere were public demonstrations, pick-et lines, angry speeches in Parliament. The Government could only reply that it doesn't have sufficient credit to pur-chase the vast stocks of powdered eggs now cluttering the warehouses of the United States.

The powdered egg thus becomes a The powdered egg thus becomes a sharp and accurate measure of the desperation and hunger of a people who have been reduced to cherishing it by a war they fought first for us and later with us. We suggest that it be served thrite daily in the restaurants of the Senate and the House where the proposed British loan is running into determined opposition; it has considerably more bearing on the subject than any of the specious arguments thus far entered into the Congressional Record. tered into the Congressional Record.

From The Asheville Citizen:

## Young At Sixty

"Serving no master, ruled by no faction, circumscribed by no selfish or narrow policy," The Progressive Farmer comes into its 60th year with all the comes mio its outly year with all the youthful vigor evident at its hirth. Under the creed of the Colonel L. L. Polk, the founder, this farm journal has spread its influence like its editions from Virginia to Texas. The Citizen forone is privileged to extend anniversary greetings to a doughty contemporary.

greetings to a doughty contemporary.

Colonel Polk founded The Progressive Farmer in 1885. The things he made it stand for, coupled with his leadership of the powerful National Farmers Alliance, helped to give the farm people of the South an enduring voice in the affairs of state and Nation. Some of these-causes seem antique now but they were lively in their day—the "sub-treasury plan," which is the present-day crop lean system; Federal land banks; rail-

road rate regulation; rural free delivery and 'parcel post. On its current anniversary The Progressive Farmer editorially reaffirms its platform of only years ago, a platform which, in its farsighted embrace of internationalism. tariff reciprocity, social security, FHA farm ownership and enlarged educational opportunity, bespeaks sound judgment and rare anticipation.

ment and rare anticipation.

Never abating its zeal for "equality for agriculture," The Progressive Farmer continues to be a constructive force in the life of the new South. The editorial pen of Poik has passed long since to Clarence Poe, one of the most ctvic-minded of North Carolinians. With nearly one million readers at 60, The Progressive Farmer, we suspect, is only just beginning a long lesse on a happy and ever more useful life.

**Bartley Crum** In Line For Ickes' Job

WASHINGTON
THE man who heads the list as
Harold Icker probable successor is Bartley Grum of San Francisco, who, like
Icke, is a liberal
Republican.
Crum

led a lot of Topics Topics over the Roosevelt-Truman ticket.

to the Roosevelt-Truman ticket.
During this campaign, Crum became a close friend of Democratic
National Chairman Bob Hannegan
who later offered him several jobs
as a reward for his services. One
was as a member of the Federal
Communications Commission, another was as a Pederal Power Commission. Crum however, turned

Communications Commission, another was as a Federal Power Commission. Crum however, turned them all down.

At one time last Summer when it looked as if Ickes was on his way out, Hanegan also suggested Crum as Secretary of the Interior. Crum's reply was "You have too good a man in that job already." At present, Crum is in the Near East as a member of the American-British Committee on Falestan as member of the Merican Arelative newcomer in politics, Crum first became prominent as an original member of the Wilkieb Brain Trust. He was one of Willie Brain Trust. He was one of Willie Brain Trust. He was one of Willieb Brain Trust. He was one of

there's only one."
Whereupon he continued walking to work—the last of the continued to the

man in the Uniced States and distinction.
At first the ladies didn't think that Harry would want to join. However, since they, as the wives of sophomore Congressmen, are members, they didn't see why the husband of a sophomore Congressweman shouldn't also join the 78th

of sophomore Congressmen, are members, they didn't see why the husband of a sophomore Congresswenan shouldn't also job in the 78th Clos Mrs. Joseph Farrington, attractive wife of the delegate from Hawaii and pregident of the club, wrote to Mr. Lace, suggesting that they would like to entertain him. He repied in a charming note, saying that he would be glad to come to Weshington on April 10, because, he said, "that is a Wed-woman't buttender," So on April 10, the 78th Club will celebrate Clare townsan't buttender," So on April 10, the 78th Club will celebrate Clare woman't buttender, "So on April 10, the 78th Club will celebrate Clare woman't buttender," So on April 10, the 78th Club will celebrate Clare woman't buttender, "So on April 10, the 78th Club will celebrate Clare townsan't buttender," So on April 10, the 78th Club will celebrate Clare townsan't buttender, "So only a few people know it, but President Truman could have saved four months of economic head-active that the same plan he is now adopting, of putting both wages and prices under Chester Bowkes, was urged on Truman could have a saved as small group of Brain-Trusters working under Bob Nathan-recommended that the remains of WPB-working under Bob Nathan-recommended that t

sinyder turned the whole thing down.
But today, the whole thing down.
But today are four months of inside bickering which has serlously affected the conomic life of the service of the



A Shot At The Big Boy

## What Happened At Yalta

MOST important about the Yalla Mescret agreement are its manner and its establishment for Americans of a preserve the Soviet Union to enter the war against Japan, the defendent of the Soviet Union to enter the war against Japan, the defendent made concessions in disagreement with principles of the Soviet Medical Control of the Signature of the

"strong, free, and independent Poland."

Just '90 NET SHOULE TRIBES

Just '90 NE Soviets skindl have been britled by produjenus gains of territory and power to enter a war in which the Allies "sought no territorial aggrandizements" and when it was already almost over, when it was already almost over, the control of the

New York

and took all of them, part of Finabout the Yalla and and part of Poland, When attacked by Germany she insisted in are its many ment for American part of Poland, When attacked by Germany she insisted in the promise of the Poland of Polan

The People's Platform

## There's A Difference

By C. M. CAIN

HENRIETTA

GICIAN:

Gressman or senator is

gressman or senator is

ghis constituents as their

morally, mentally, and judiciously

to act as their intermediary in all

"When Junior arrives, Otis, don't forget what we've been taught about the psychological treatment of returned soldiers, who've been long overdue returning!"

eliment of free choice to please duty to confirm, we shall soon be put to it to explain why what we support for others is not good for the confirm. The decline of a nation always set in when it falls out of its own character. The Russians are mains what she has always set in when it falls out of its own character. The Russians are mains what she has always been: imperial, tyramical, egalitatian, and messaint. It is the sacreman messaint in it is the sacreman should be the representative of all of them. The idea of assumption is that he is apecially qualiffed, morally, mentally, and judiciously to act as their intermediary in all matters affecting their intermediary in all matters affecting their intermediary in all matters affecting their messaint in the fair, equitable and just as 'affecting the relationship of his constituents but at the same time will be fair, equitable and just as 'affecting the relationship of his constituents to their fellow citizens of all other politico-separableral areas.

You should not have stopped when you looked up definition of politician—you should also look up definition of the molitician and the politician—you should also look up definition of the definition of politician—you should also look up definition of the definition of politician—you should also loo

Marquis Childs

#### Rage And Pain In Greenwich



TYPERE is emething a Bills comes host the criss of rage and pain which have rested the selection of the rich suburban area in New York and Connecticut, as a side for the selection of the rich suburban area in New York and Connecticut, as a side for the selection of the rich suburban area in New York and Connecticut, as a side for march host control of the selection of the selection of the selection of the selection of the selection. But now that they are threatened with loss of the selection of the selection. But now that they are threatened with loss of the selection of the selection. But now that they are threatened with loss of the selection of the selection. But now that they are threatened with loss of the selection of the

woman of the contraction was a contraction of the c

Samuel Grafton

## How To Become Totalitarian

