Can We Eat Our Cake And Not Have It?

goals to a deep sympathy for the goal doors on the Meckinshurg Board at Commissioners who this week devoted as bour or so of their time to deerving saids on the Federal Treasury and the greed that they would have to have more rederal funds if they are to maintain an adequate county welfare program. We thought we could detect overtones in their dislectical discussion that indicate that they are, by and large, opposed to welfare programs, adequate contentially there was some auch thought behind Commissioner Cashion's remarks: "Where is this business going to end? Our country is already swinging too far to the left, and if we don't mind we're going to wind up with another form of government."

ment."

This was the trend of the conversation for quite a while, and it might have led to a sort of rebellion if it had not been for Chairman McAden, an embently practical gentleman. Mr. McAden reminded his overgentleman: Mr. McAden reminded his over-heated collegues that there really wasn't nuch-they could do about the Federal Government's mad course of spending moisey for welfare purposes. If they re-fused to accept it would only be spend-somewhere else. Such an argument never

we confess to a deep sympathy for the good Scots on the Mecklenburg Board Commissioners who this week tevoled an hour or so of their time to decrying saids on the Federal Treasury and then screed that they would have to have more Pederal funds if they would have to have more Pederal funds if they are to maintain an adequate county welfare program.

We thought we could detect overtones in their dialectical discussion that indicated that they are, by and larse, opposed to that they are, by and larse, opposed to the total they are, by and larse, opposed to wolfare programs, adequate or otherwise. Containly there was some such thought. Doughton, who puts a reverse spin on the Commissioners' viewpoint. Mr. Doughton, commissioners' viewpoint. Mr. Doughton, we gather from the eulogy of the New Deal he delivered before the North Carolina Democratic Convention, is a staunch supporter of public welfare. But Mr. Doughton, as a cursory examination of this voting record will show, dogsn't believe in spending Federal funds for it, or for much of anything else.

of anything else.

If this proves anything it is that public officials who are recipients of Federal funds dislike the theory of public welfare but support the practice, while those who control the funds support the theory that are reluctant to pay for the practice. We leave if with you, Perhaps it will clear up after the election.

A Mysterious, Macrocosmic Skunk

THE workings of democracy, we think, can best be understood in terms of swimming pools, sirports, libraries, and newer systems. These are the sort of tangible public projects a voter can watch grow before his eyes. He can measure their Success or failure without outside assistence. He can count their cost against his own income, and figure out his equity on the back of an old envelope. We have, therefore, watched with considerable in-terest the various bond elections that have been conducted here and there seems to been conducted here and there across the state in the last few weeks.

been conducted firet and there arous the state in the last few week across the successful library vote in High Point, has been the same as that established here. Only a fraction of the woters care enough, one way or the other, to mark a ballot. Those who do vote can, apparently, be sold on the necessity for making essential improvements to their communities—water systems, sewers, new schools. Alrports, libraries, and swimming pools seem to be regarded as luxuries and therefore non-secontial even in a time when most of us are living high and money is easy.

It is safe to concluge that there is little genuine public intersect in what editorial writers like to call community progress. We are willing to make up past deficiencies, we are willing to make up past deficiencies but we seem to have took faith in our fu-

but we seem to have lost faith in our but we seem to have lost faith in our future. This, of course, has been deeply disturbing to those who have set out to analyze it. The matter is of more importance than the sirports, libraries, and swimming pools we are not building—it has to do with the strength of our democracy in a time of crisis. If the voter displays little constructive interest in the tangible manifestations of the government of which he is a vital part, how can he be expected to act intelligently upon the difficult abstract questions that now con-

Spencer Murphy of the Salisbury Post, who had watched his fellow townsmen vote who had watched his fellow townshiel vote down a Program for Progress, managed to avoid the temptation, urged upon him by some of his readers, to "give the people hell." Confessing that the immediate prospect is as gloomy as any he can rem he still finds hope in the long view.

he still finds hope in the long view.

There is little inspiration in the American scene at this moment to "give people hell." Bather, if we see it rightly, there tempt to all in keeping alive the apirit and the courage of the enlightened minority which eventually may bring the hewildered majority around to such a degree of virtually and the such a degree of virtually and the such a degree of virtually in the such as the s

I involves Governmental corruption, public unrest and auspiction, widespread moral turpitude, a decilibing birth rule, rise to public power of degenerates and introcappoints. He was a superior of degenerates and introcappoints of the first and best and the superior of the first and best and the superior of the first and lever and the superior of the United States—has been sprayed by some mysterious, mecroceenic akunk. The alternatives are to grift and bear it or to grift and prolong it.

The alternatives are to grift and bear it or to grift and prolong it.

I and survive, retrice if from it and prevish. Be of good cheer.

He of good cheer.

There is an adequate historical basis for Mr. Murphy's analysis. But two questions follow: (1) How long can a majority which has abandoned its virtue survive the currents now running in the world? (2) Can the minority's teeth stand the amount of gritting that may be required?

President Truman's Short Answers

have been looking over a transcript of President Truman's latest press conference, the one in which he spanked a couple of White House reporters. It does not, of course, report the President's reand, or tourse, report the Presidents re-plies literally, but it does paraphrase them to give their full meaning without direct quotation. We are struck by the fact that, with no more than two or three exceptions, the questions are longer than the answers they elicited.

This would seem to indicate impatience, if not downright annoyance. At one point the Fresident repilled to a question by telling the reporter the answer was none of his business. It was noted that he amiled when he said it, but it seemed to be an afterthought.) When a reporter pressed a query regarding the algnificance of several recent White House conferences, the President replied that be could see anyboard wanted to without explaining it to the press. There was no indication of a smiller than the could see anyboard to take the curse off that one.

The deterioration of a president's relations with the press are, perhaps, no more than an indication of the tepthle strain of the job. It has happened to all of them; even Franklin Roosevelt, who enjoyed the This would seem to indicate impatience.

give and take of the press conference more perhaps than any man who ever occupied the White House, reached the point where he snapped at his old friends. But whatever the reason, it is always unfortunate, and it is particularly so now.

Mr. Truman's short answers to the urgent queries of the reporters—and they were important, questions—were short answers to the public. When he fails to explain his course of action, to outline the problems that beset him, he loses the public sympathy that is the most valuable weapon at his disposal. No problem, the people are likely to conclude, can be very beople are likely to conclude, can be very people are likely to conclude, can be very important if the President doesn't care to discuss it, or manages to dispose of it in two or three off-the-cuff sentences.

two or three off-thr-cuff sentences.

Mr. Truman began his tour of duty as President by asking the White House reporter to pray for him. The are, we fear, behalf with God, but it, but their natural function to interpret his troubles to the people. We suspect Mr. Truman would find the going considerably easier if he pointed out to the reporters, and through them to the people, the pressures that are beginning to sandpaper his heretofore steady nerves.

Another Voice

Hush---She'll Be A Grandma Too

AMES MONTGOMERY FLAGG, the artist, speaking: "Girls used to be lus-cious; now they're indigestible. The bobbysowers are ruining the American tradition sources are running the American tradition of beautiful women. I above sloppy women. If women had an ounce of sense they would never dreas as they do. Men's attrethey affect—shirt and jeans—is indecent. Thereybody's laughing at American women, and I'd laugh myself if I weren't so dis-

gusted."

Now, now, Mr. F. The last time around we deplored the display of undergarments in rug cutting. Earlier, it was brief skirts and the Charleston. Before that it was the wasp walst. Why, feminine history is a

serial story of man's laments against that

serial story of man's laments against that which man in time learns to admire-petiticoats, stays, flounces, Merry Widow hats, pantalettes, prek-a-boo waists, alit skiris, rolled stockings, trains, ruffs, and hoops.

So long as a girl uses soap before donning her overalls, so long as ahe mixes health with a sense of humor, tooth paste with tolerance, pressure cookers with pateuric, perlime with grammar, she'll knock some lad wittess. And her generation will reach its quote of wedding bells, nurseries and mortgages, softening finally into a mood of singing about Grandma's sweet. Intile Alice shie jeans.—New York World-Telegram.



People's Platform

On Misleading Captions

MONROE

MORE DRINKING; LESS TROUBLE" was a misleading caption to my article appearing in the
People's Platform of The News on May 6, 1946. I
did not discuss the thought that ABC Stores produce
more drinking and less trouble totrouble to-

did not discuss the thought that ABG Stores produce more dividing and less trouble inn editorial idea; but the subject of my argument was "ABC Stores Increase Drink."

To substantiate my argument that drinking is increased by ABG Stores, I quoted from Mr. Burke Davis article on "ABC Did R." in The News of Yeb. 18, 1946, in which he quinted Judge John II, Harris, bead of the Durham County ABC Board, as saying: I don't say there's less whisky drunk here—there's probably more."

I don't say there's less whisky drunk here-there.

It was irrelevant to my main idea of increased drinking from ABC Stores that I abould quote Judge Harris further ceditorial footnote supplied its on the relative purity or poism of ABC and bootlegger liquor, not under discussion, and the decreased Dix Hill cases from 30 to 2 yearly in Durham County. Perhaps the Keely Institutes, respected since probibition for the greatest number of alcoholics ever recorded in the United States, are caring for the decreased number in Durham County, not of public recording the should be fair to the writer, maning its subjects, and not the idea of the editor, which misleads the reader and prejudices ha judgment. The editoral footnotes in The New strangely stray to the headlines untilifying the writer's though with the editoral opinion. In this case.

I did not write on "More Drinking: Less Trouble", but on "ABC Stores Increase Drinking".

-INEZ FLOW

(NOTE: The headline reterred to Judge Harits' complete statement, which was certainly relevant to our original editorial, and therefore to Miss Flow's letter taking issue with it. It was designed, along with the footnote, to call attention to the fact that may be a supported to the statement of the fact that ing off a sentence, for her own purposes. Since we try hard to swold this propagands technique in our own arguments we see nothing unfair in calling our own arguments we see nothing unfair in calling our continuous means that the statement of the continuous seeds of the seed of the s

Guy From Cheraw
TOKYO BAY, JAPAN
MAVING served some time with a guy from Cheraw,
S. C. thought maybe you would be interested in

Why Blame John?

WHY blame John L. Lewis? I blame the one-sided Wagner Act. Suggestion to our Congressmen: Vote for the Case Bill. Also, get Big Inch to carry natural gas.

-HOWARD SNOW.

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be less than 300 words. Ispecuritien if possible, and on only one side of the paper, their and obscently will be deleted—atherwise anything poes. Each letter must be signed, although, in exceptional cases and upon request, use will welchold the writer's name.—Editors, The Nivas.

Quote, Unquote

IN business in labor, in agriculture, many of the old familiar forces of selfshness are again on the march. And to make matters worse, we find Government allying itself first with this pressure group, and them with that, for political advantage—Former Governor John W. Bricker of Ohio, 1944 nominee for Vice-President.

Not everyone realizes so clearly that the advantage of modern science depends also upon the existence and exploitation of a large body of subtle highly ingenious mathematics, which is continually expanding, thanks to the persistent efforts of prefessional mathematicians—Dr. Marshail Stone of

I don't believe for a moment that it will ever come to a conflict between England and the United States on one side and Russia on the other. Hough the situation might result in their lasting isolation from each other.—President Eduard Benes of Czechoslovakia.

If we must seek means of correcting the vicious educational system which fed the Nipponese and Nazi fury, we would better not ignore the anomalies and absurdities of our own.—Dr. Everett Case, president Colonie II.

Congress & Housing

Bertram Benedict

WASHINGTON
TURLEE steps have so fag been
taken by Congress to niest the
housing crisis. (1) Legislation has
been enacted to make surpling structures of the armed forces synilable
on college campuses. The effect of
this legislation is necessarily narrow and temporary. (3) Both
the composition of the composition of the composition of
the property of the composition of the composition of
the importance of the composition of
the importance of the composition of
the composition of the

PLEA REJECTED

would bear interest at cent, as compared with the per cent on the usual FHA

INSURANCE INCREASED

Samuel Grafton

Roadside America

NEW YORK

If HAVE just driven about 400 miles, to my driven about 400 miles, to my driven and the state of th

the tages and other siich filmsies are going up; but almost no houses are being built for people who merely want to stay in their own inowns and her. It seems much easier to obtain facilities for a holiday than for routine life.

Shortages are sporadic and inconsequential. The Cape Charles-to-Norfolk ferry steamer has no sugar- on the sway down, and no butter on the way beak; but it has been and eags and Smithfield ham and roast beef and milk. It also has fat for frying potators.

FULL PIPELINES

Salisbury, Maryland, comes to \$230, But, later on, on tinus one-self paying almost two-thirds of that amount for a good breakfast, and the salish of the salish person to the salish of the salish of

desire to chain facilities for a classifier to chain facilities for a much easier to chain facilities for a more and the facility of the substitution of the facilities of common, and the facilities of the facil

Drew Pearson's: House Vote Tests 'Nylon Lobby' Strength

(NOTE-Drew Pearson today continues his series exposing the lobbies which have been operating behind the scenes on Capitol Hill.)

capasing the lobbies which have been operating behind the seems in Capitol IIII.)

WASHINGTON

TODAY a vote by the House of Representatives will desired the seems of the control of the c

Father Coughlin's Friend
SINATON FROMA'S cotton trading has been through.

D. Robert Mayria of Harriss and Vone, 60 Beaver Storm.

New York, with the account carried in the hame of the Senator's wife. Both Harriss is an old and intimate friend of the Senator's and of other Senators in the cotton bloc. At one time. Harriss handled the cotton trading of Senator Burkheed of Alabama, and was also externely close that the senator beautiful and the senator beaut

Senator Thomas of Oklahoma also was a great silver-implication estimates and did his best to lace a silver about the same time Father Coughiln was speciating in aliver and when Bob Harriss was close to both men. Senator Thomas also seems to have a bent for other kinds of specialistic seems to have a bent for other kinds of specialistic seems to have by a father blottery.

Thomas Pleads For Cotton

Hills recent cotton associations, however, are especially interesting and appear to be closely related to his
species on the Senate floor.

Mr. Harrias, who handless the Thomas family's cottontracing account, is in and out of the Senator's office every
week or so. They are very warm friends. The Thomas purclasses never go more than 5,500 sales, which is the legal
limit for cotton, and usually the Thomas tracing is through
purposed to the senate of the thomas purclasses never go more than 5,500 sales, which is the legal
limit for cotton, and usually the Thomas tracing is through
purposed to the senate of the thomas purclasses never go more than 5,500 sales, which is the legal
limit for cotton, and the Thomas tracing is
for the senate of the through the senate of the
dates of March 4 and 7, between March 29 and April 4
and between April 3 and 12 Herris and Vose tracing as
this time was largely for its concerners and the firm was
if you compare the dates of the Harriss and Vose
cotton-tracling and the dates of the Harriss and Vose
cotton-tracling and the dates of the Harriss and Vose
cotton-tracling and the dates of the members of the
control of the trace of the control of the control

to the Wall Street Journal, "Cotton futures rose \$1.35 to \$1.85 a bale on a late rush of buying orders stimulated by the possibility that the Pace bill would be adopted by the possibility that the Pace bill would be adopted by the possibility that the Pace bill would be adopted by the Thomas. Demorat, Oklahoma, for higher farm prices in supporting tacking on of the Pace measure to the minimum wage bill. All futures made 22-year highs, spain \$2.45 a bale as a result of Senate statements by members of the bale as a result of Senate statements by members of the cotton bloc Again the Wall Street Journal commented: "Predictions by Senate aponators of the Pace parity bill that the Senate would approve it as an amendment to cotton for the pace parity bill that the Senate would approve it as an amendment to cotton for the pace parity bill the pace of the pace parity bill that the Senate would approve it as an amendment to cotton futures."

New Maneuvers