SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1946

Reserve A Dark Page For The 79th

THERE will be few to shed tears at the

THERE will be few to shed tears at the passing of the 19th Congress, scheduled for sine die addournment as this is written. Certainly Harry S. Truman has no reason to feel kindly toward it; of the 21 points brought forward in his reconversion program the 79th enacted only six into law, most of these relatively unimportant. This would not, in itself, have assured the 79th a dark page in . history if, in rejecting the President's procram, the Congress has attempted to push through one of its own. This it did not do. Controlled most of the time by an irresponsible coalition of Republicans and Southern Democrats, the 79th followed a course of consistent-obstruction. Party Government collapsed in 1946, and the Congress simply refused to face up the grave issues of reconversion.

There are a few entries on the credit

reconversion.

There are a few entries on the credit side of the ledger, most of them having to do with foreign policy. The 79th did reiser traditional American isolationist decretine when it adopted the United Nations Charler. In approving the British Loan, and in establishing a civilian commission for the control of atomic energy, it supported the State Department's effort to obtain orderly peace settlements. The Congress also deserves credit for passage of an enlightener reorganization bill designed to streamline 18ts own functions.

reorganization bill designed to streamline its ewn functions.

But the debit side is crowded indeed. On the four most important issues facing it—price controls, housing, labor, and draft-extension—it vaciliated, postponed a final decision past the danger point, and finally wound up in every case with a weak and ineffective compromise. Anything that a macked of the New Deal—The Wagner-Ellender-Taft Housing Bill, FEPC, full-employment as minimum wages law, the Missouri Valley Authority plan—was re-jected without serious consideration, or emasculated until it became meaningless when enacted. This may have been a normal political reaction, but its effect was not only to condemn the late President Roosevelt and all his works, but to end Federal planning in the middle of a grave emergency. This stubborn, blind opposition, to which the recalcitrant Southerners contributed so much, insured the aimless and costly drift for which, we are now beginning to pay.

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When the coalition wrecked the party system the 78th lost its identity as a serious legislative organization and became a collection of harrassed individuals, each of whom responded in varying degree to the terrific pressures brought against him from the outside. The voting record of almost any member will show amazing inconsistencies; for instance, Senator La-Follette, surely as independent and as conscientious as any member of either House, fought for enactment of a rigid price control bill with one conspicuous exception—he wanted to exempt from price ceilings the dairy products produced by the major industry in his home state of Wisconstin. That was the measure of the Congress in tits closing days—each member put his constituents' immediate interests above the country's.

It has been said that in a democracy the people usually get the sort of Governmen they deserve. This was the case, we think, with the 79th Congress. Its shabby record is also the record of the American people, the majority of whom saw the end of the war not as a dangerous and uncertain period of transition but as a golden opportunity to kick off the lid. shoot the works, make a killing. If the pentlemen who made up the 79th are to be charged with any individual sin it must be their failure to rise above the people who elected them and provide the sort of firm leadership the people indicated they didn't want. That, we suppose, was asking too much. It has been said that in a democracy the

Operation McMinn Can't Be Justified

OPERATION McMINN, in which a group of veterans seized the Government of a Tennessee county by force of arms, gives rise to disturbing speculation concerning the temper of ex-GIs everywhere. The veterans of McMinn, banded together in a bi-partisan political organization, seek to justify their action on the ground that it was necessary to prevent the theft of an election by an entrenched and corrupt courthouse ring. The evidence from Tennessee—what there is of It—seems to support their charges of election fraud, but there still remain a number of gunshot wounds, silt throats and fractured skulls for which the veterans are directly responsible.

There was ruthless efficiency in the way the veterans moved in on the jail, where county officials and special deputies holed up with the seized ballot boxes. A spattering of bullets to keep the besieged away

up with the seized ballot boxes. A spatter-ing of bullets to keep the besieged away from the windows, the use of dynamite to force entry—this is the Army's standard technique for the reduction of enemy strongopints. This was an organization, not a mob, and its discipline was apparent. When the deputies surrendered they were marched out, hands on heads, searched, and returned to the jail to be held pending

the arrival of the State Guard. The ballot boxes were impounded, and guards armed with Army rifles took up posts outside the building. The fact that there were no deaths, and little pointless violence, indicates that the incident cannot be classified as a spontaneous riol.

Field as a spontaneous riol.

The Richard shalph Dugram, former in charse, sale Ralph Dugram, former in charse, sale Ralph Dugram, former in the sale control commander. We will dictate all cannot commander. We will dictate all cannot be controlled to the sale of the sale control cannot be closed as simply as that As a matter of fact nobody has been elected to any office in McMinn County, for the effect of the rioting has been to cancel all votes cast. The courts. In the end, will dictate terms to both sides.

Election frauds are indefensible, but there are legal methods of dealing with them. We may sympathize with the GIs of McMinn, who seem to have had extreme provocation, but no thoughtful citizen can condone their action. Barring the total collapse of civil government, no cause is good enough to justify the decision of an organized group of private citizens to take the law into their own hands.

A Note On Presidential Integrity

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S decision to veto the bill renouncing Federal claims to off-shore oil lands furnishes a valuable clue to his character. His political advisers undoubtedly told him the veto was the only possible decision, but it must be remembered that the President has previously displayed an utter disregard for political considerations in connection with this same business. same business.

Mr. Truman's good friend Ed Pauley came to grief as a result of his effort to obtain from Congress the very bill the President has now killed. Yet Mr. Truman defended Ed Pauley against any and all charges and stuck by him long after it was apparent that his loyalty was seriously damaging his own reputation. By inference, at least, the President supported Pauley's contention that the states have first claim on the off-shore oil lands and Pauley's contention that the states have first claim on the off-shore oil lands, and he refused to recognize that there was anything dublous about the methods Pauley employed to prove his point. Months after the incident was closed, at great cost to the President's prestige, Mr. Truman took an unwarranted slap at Senator Austin of President's prestige, Mr. Truman took an unwarranted slap at Senator Austin of Vermont simply because he had led the opposition to his good friend Ed Pauley at the time of his nomination.

But, after all this, the President unhesi-tatingly vetoed the bill Pauley wanted

passed. He argued that it is improper for Congress to attempt to settle any matter by special legislation when it is pending before the Supreme Court. Whatever the merits of the states' claims in the matter, this argument stands as an eminently proper one. But it is in sharp contrast to utterly improper ones the President brought forward in defense of his poker-playing naj.

brought forward in defense of his pokerplaying pal.

The point is that in the matter of the
weto a moral issue was clearly drawn and
Mr. Truman followed his own sound instincts. In the matter of the Pauley nomination his loyalty was directly involved, and
Mr. Truman is a man who believes his
friends can do no wrong. Thus his vision
Mr. Truman is a man who believes his
friends can do no wrong. Thus his vision
was biurred, but let it be said to his credit
that he courageously refused then, as he
has so often since, to sell a pal down the
river to save his own hide.

In combination these qualities of loyalty
and stubbornness frequently lead Mr. Truman
into strange bypaths, leaving him
wide open to charges of playing cheap
politics. These seem to us completely unfounded. He has been wrong, as he certainly was when he astuck by Ed Pauley in
the containt of the

Another Voice

Missouri Avenue Or Rosebud Drive?

Missouri Avenue (I)
THEY have named a street in Washington, D. C.-for Missouri. It is described
as a winding street, about 20 blocks long,
in a good residential section. Get out! A
quiet roadway, probably flanked by the
homes of upper bracket government employees and lobbyists, named for Missouri!
It's a siur to the laind where the lightning
plays above Hannibal, and the river pulses
in gray majesty down its flume of bluffs.
Where the wind of the prairies wars with
the wind from the Gulf. Where a Dan't
laces Zames platof an arpegged on bankers.
There the harvesters hum in Summer and
have assona creak through the mornall Hovembey. Iross. Where the cities

breast the levee and the "blues" are bred in the sultry Targee Street night. land where Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn plotted piracy, where a Civil War states-man put two loaded pistols on the table before starting his speech. This is where the hills talk in the night and a train whistle answers from far out across the bottoms.

obttoms.

A street, about 20 blocks long, in a good residential section! Let the D. of C. take it back, and rename it Rosebud Drive the only Washington thoroughfare which is worthy of the name of vital Missourl is the White House front drive.—St. Louis Globe-



People's Platform

One Mississippian's View

CHARLOTTE Growing Son

Editors. The News:

I HAVE been here in the City of Charlotte for several months, but before coming here, I often heard that your Chamber of Commerce advertised Charlotte as "The Friends City" but since I have been here. I find this is a misnomer of the worst sort, and I not only speak for myself but also for others who have recently moved here. I often find that people do not even know their next door neighbors even though they have been living close to each other for months.

recently more than the control of th

word for this—make your own observations.

I gather from your editorials that you are in favor of racial equality but before that can be, the Negro must be educated as to what racial equality really means, but inasmuch as I was born, rearrand and educated in the State of Mississippi, I can never believe that the Negro will ever be the equal of the white. In the State of Mississippi, I can never believe that the Negro will ever be the equal of the white. In the State of Mississippi, we have very little trouble will be the state of the state of the word of the will say that they are mistreated.

I hope that you will print this in your paper, for I am sure that my views on this subject coincide with the majority of the white people of Charlotte.

(NOTE: (1) A more careful reading of our edi-torials would have unlocated that we stand for racial justice as provided by the laws of the United States are provided by the laws of the United States conduct of Negroes on busses, sidewalks, and in grocery stores certainly does not coincide with Mr. Haley's. There are ill-manusced Negroes, of course, but we would give the majority high marks for tion between the races in North Carolina refutes Mr. Haley's fear-ridden prediction of trouble unless Negroes are kept forcibly in what most white Mistis-sipplans' regard as their place—Eds., The News).

CHARLOTTE TER son aged ten is growing fast;

His wardrobe that she bought him last
Year is tight and she must cast
To brother

All those suits and underwear; Brother is proud, he doesn't care For wearing cast-offs anywhere. And mother

Shops the town for size twelve "stout"— Quickly she is put to rout; Son will have to do without Merchants say.

So she takes back clothes from brother, Splices, lets out seams with bother, And waits with patience (like a mother) On OPA.

-DEANE RITCH LOMAX.

On Prejudice

Editors. The News:

A M writing regarding, your letter published in the A but 20th editor, from the potton pen from Clover. S. C. Although I am Southern born and raised, the apparent illiterate, traditional sentiment expressed toward the Negro race as a whole by this Clover, S. C., intidel, is most disgusting. I served forty-eight norths in the Pacific Threater. During this time I fighting to preserve democracy which apparently-they are being denied to live and abde by. In my estimation, the sooner some of these Southern politically blinded and prejudiced, individual dimwits, arrive at the resilization of the fact that all the Negro wants ify and be left, alone, the sooner racial peace and harmony will prevail in the South.

—JOHN M. FROST.

-JOHN M. FROST.

No Change

Editors. Twe News:

THE NEWS has cut out something that I and probably more people miss—which is part of Twe News Radio Log. You have not published the program schedule for the morning of the next day since you had to run a week with only eight pages.

Why?

-CHARLES B. STEGALL.

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 on only one side of the paper. Libet and obscently 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, Tim News.

Marquis Childs What Congress Did

President's labor-draft proposal was given a merciful political, anneather than the second of the se

Peter Edson

Surplus Education WASHINGTON higher education. It may be used.

MASHINGTON
ARKANSAS Senator J. William
Fulbright, who used to be a
college president himself. Is now
the proud author of a bill to
provide about 14 million dollars
worth of free and higher worldwide education over the next
twenty years.
Fulbright's bill was passed by
the Senate last April. If yor by

Pulloright's bill was passed by the Senate last April. It got by the House the other afternoon in about ten minutes with not much attention and no opposition. It distings—the Surplus Property Act. There is no inference that higher education is surplus property. Par from it. But by an intennous bit from it. But by an intennous bit bright has found a way to finance out of the sale of war junk a system of American scholarships that makes Cecil Rhodes look like a piter. Senator scholar higher like the property of degrees from Oxford.

The way Senator Fulbright worker this thing out, defining with the senate of the senat

higher education. It may be used-to endow a professorship enabling some visiting American professor to teach in a foreign university. It may provide scholarships for students studying in American intiversities abroad like Roberts College in Beirut and the American College in Istanbul. Or it may be used to establish other such efficie and American cultural centers in Jorean Coulons.

BRITISH AGREEMENT

RRITISH AGREEMENT
Nations which may eash in on
the maximum benefits of a millon dollars a year for the next
lon dollars a year for the next
France, Italy, China, Mexico and
the Philippines, An agreement
has already been worked out with
the British on this basis and the
first of these reverse Rhodes
scholars will probably go there.

senoiars will probably go there.

In China, proceeds from the
sale of scrap are to be earmarked
for these scholarships and endowments although T. V. Soong,
who handled the negoliations for
China, said he would hate to have
the American beneficiaries known
as "scrap" students.

STATE DEPT. HAPPY

The way Senator Fulbricht worked this thing out definite amounts received from U. S. surplis war material soid abroade and the surplish war material soid abroade and the surplish war manutum to be spen in this way in any one year will be suffered to the surplish way in any one year will be suffered to the surplish way in any one year will be suffered to the surplish way in any one year will be suffered to the surplish way in any one year will be suffered to the surplish way in any one year will be suffered to the surplish way in any one year will be suffered to the surplish way in any one year will be suffered to the surplish way in any one year will be suffered to the surplish way in the purched to the surplish way in the purched to the war surpluses they buy for the war surpluse way in the purched way in the way in the purched way in the purched way in the purched way in the purched way in the way

Drew Pearson's: Attlee Proposed Deal To Split Palestine

THE most-important conversation of the entire Paris Confer-January Conference of the Conference of the Paris Conference occurred not in the gold-bedecked hall of the Paisce Byrnes sat down with British Prime Minister Clement Attless. Significantly, they called in not treaty experts, but Pres-tent Trumars special Palestine Commissioner, Henry Grady, and this is what they allow the Paris Conference of the Conference of the

U.S.A. in turn, worms per partition Palestin.

partition Palestin.

me where at this trade. He told the mildmannered Prime Minister of England quite (rankly that he
had direct orders from his boss in the White House against
any partition of Palestine. He added, however, that he beleved he could convince Mr. Truman of the wisdom of the
trade. Tentatively, therefore, Byrnes accepted the PalestireGermany swap, subject to White House approval.

Germany awap, subject to White House approval.

But he also asked Adles to name a definite date for moving the Jews out of Europe. Atthee promised action by September and then proceeded to put the heat on Byrnes for an early White House okay on the critic deal.

This puts Truman very much on a spot, since Javelan Tris puts Truman very much on a spot, since Javelan of Palestine Into separate Jewish and Arab states. On the other hand, Truman doesn't like to regulate his Secretary of [Statz. So he's between the devil and the deep blue sea.

MOTE-LI is believed that Atlete came from London over this Palestine-German deal. He considers it extremely Important.

Official 'Lead' Policy

formed public without a well-informed press.

Jimmy came around to this point of view several weeks ago when he established an official "leak" policy. Having discovered that the Russians were "leaking" to the press, the Honorable Mr. Byrnes decided to outleak the Russiana. To this end, his addes started holding amazingity frank press conferences. Almost nothing was head given to newment. Naturally the Bustian band of the pressure of the press

openly arrived at. Deserted by 18 own autoor at Pals in 1910 the goal was finally achieved by James P. Byrnes at 1910 the goal was finally achieved by James P. Byrnes at 1910 the goal was finally achieved by James P. Byrnes at 1910 the goal of the property of the Proper