MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1946

An Annual Wage For Industry?

VAN A. BLITNER, director of the CIO's "Operation Dixie" opens a discussion of the guaranteed annual wage in industry by announcing that he believes with all his heart in the free enterprise system. But he immediately contradicts himself with the statement that he cannot bring himself "to the thought that profit is the binnes!" to the thought that profit is the motivating spirit of our conomic and business life." Business, Mr. Bithner thinks, should be based on "the Christian precept of devoting our lives to the rendering of service to our fellowmen and in that way rendering service to our country."

Once past this Utopian opening. Mr. Bittner goes on to present an interesting explanation of Labor's concern with the guaranteed minimum wage, which CIO Precident Phil Murray is now actively advocating. He points out that the guaranteed vocating. He points out that the guaranteed annual wage is so simple as to seem revolu-tionary, while as a matter of fact the sys-tem is traditional in all branches of busi-ness except manufacturing, mining, and the building trades. Virtually all white col-lar workers are employed with the under-standing that their employment is year-around and their wage scale fixed, bar-ring major catastrophes.

The goal of all workers, Mr. Bittner notes, is security, and this the industrial worker does not now have. At least two large manufacturers—the Hormel Packing Company and the Nunn-Bush Shoc Company—have operated under the guaranteed ennual wage plan for several years and have pronounced it a success. The ClO, indeed, believes that the system is incertiable in all of Industry, Mr. Bittner says:

You ask me how the Guaranteed Mini-num Annual Wage should be made effec-tive in industry? My answer is that man-gement and organized labor should meet in ne conference room, sit down around the silective bargaining table with the thought in mind of rendering service to humanity.

When this happens this problem will be solved. when this happens this problem will be solved.

Indeed, it will, but we would say that Mr. Bittner is a good many years ahead of himself. And it also seems to us that his sales technique is all wrong, and that its wrongness underlines a major weakness of organized labor. The emphasis here is all on security for workers, which we grant is a worthy goal. But security and efficiency have not gone hand in hand so far in the history of the union labor movement. In seeking maximum employment of their members the unions have fought against technical advances designed to increase production. The emphasis has always been on keeping as many workers as possible on the job at the maximum possibly pay scale, and this has naturally precluded any real interest in stepping up output.

Any manufacturer, even the most al-

output.

Any manufacturer, even the most altrustic, must have a passionate interest in efficiency if he is to survive under the competitive system to which Mr. Bittner is dedicated. If it could be demonstrated that a guaranteed minimum annual wage would create more efficient plant operation, most manufacturers would be happy to sit down around the collective bargaining table and talk a little turkey. Their present reluctance derives from a justified fear that any such system would only promote additional featherbedding, pulling down still further the declining productive down still further the declining productive

So long as security is the union's primary So long as security is the union's primary business, and efficiency managements, and so long as each seeks its goal at the expense of the other, there is little chance of that meeting of minds which Mr. Bitter correctly terms essential. The real problem is the evolution of a system under which excurrity promotes efficiency, and efficiency security. There is no reason to believe that a guaranteed minimum wage will do the job alone.

The Proud Old Hickory Division

O'E day in the early Spring of 1945 the G-3 of the XIX Corps gazed admiringly at the looping lines on his operations map and put his finger on a small symbol near Munchen-Gladbach. "We're lucky." he said. "We're got the finest division in the United States Army under our command."

The symbol was that of the 30th In-fantry Division, the North Carolina-Ten-nessee-South Carolina National Guard Ten-ter of the South Carolina National Guard Ten-ter of the South Carolina National Guard Was hell-bent for final victory, spearheading the attack as it had so often in the sweep the attack as it had so often in the sweep from Normandy to the Selgride Line. in the slow and punishing Winter campaign, and in the breakthrough at Julich The officers and men of "The Old Hickory" were putting the finishing touches on an other chapter in a proud military history.

On that wet Spring day most of the men of the 30th hoped, even it they didn't really believe it, that the chapter they were writing might be the last in their

Division's long history. But now, a year and a half later, the 30th is being recon-stituted, with headquarters in Raleigh.

It is no accident that the 30th is one of the first of the National Guard divisions to receive orders for reactivation on a peace-time basis. The War Department knows that no unit is better than its morale, and the 01d Hickory has a tradition guaranteed to boilster the pride of any man who wears the triple-X shoulder natch.

North Carolina has a right to be proud of the 30th, and proud that two of her sons—Major General John Hall Manning and his Chief of Staff, Colonel Paul Younts—will guide the Division's destiny. And perhaps North Carolina still has a right to hope that the 30th will be allowed to rest on its laurels after all, that General Manning-will never lead his men into any campaign more arduous than a Summer maneuver.

See Here, Commander Hargrove

OUR boy Marion Hargrove, who has bers of the Communist newspaper and its sister-publication, New Masses. made a career out of his troubles, is in the soup again. This time he is engaged in a struggle with the New York Depart-ment of the American Legion which has refused membership to the Duncan-Paris Post-on the grounds that it is in, in fact, a Communist cell. It happens that Private Hargrove, through no fault of his own, we suspect, is Post Commander.

Well, whatever else it is, the Duncan-Paris Post is about as remarkable a ver-erans organization as we ever heard of. It meets in that Communist stronghold, the Plaza Hotel, and is made up of artists and writers, which is how Marion, the proin it. Some of these literary gentlemen do have a pinkish tinge, no question about it. Dashiell Hammett, who used to be the country's best mystery story writer before left-wing politics numbed his brain is a member. Among the others are Lester Rodney, sports editor of The Daily Worker Rodney, sports editor of The Daily Worker and several past and present staff mem-

But Commander Hargrove Insists that these practicing Communists are a mi-nority, and a small one, and that anyway he doesn't see what a man's politics has to do with his membership in a nonto do with his membership in a non-political organization like the American Legion. This is an interesting argument, just what you'd expect a literary man to whomp up, and Commander Hargrove plans to take it to Legion headquarters in In-dianapolis.

We suspect Commander Hargrove will be received in Indianapolis with all the cordiality normally accorded a leper, and if he ever gets to debate the matter with anybody of higher rank than the ser-geant-at-arms we'll be most surprised. But before the excitement dies away the Dunbefore the excitement dies away the Dun-Can-Paris Post: will have acquired a good many inches of free. If unfavorable, pub-licity, and the American Legion will have been treated to a public hotfoot. And that, we suspect, was all Hargrove and Company really wanted to do in the first place.

Another Voice

Birthday Of A Famous Son

ON this 84th anniversary of the birth of Greensboro's most famous son-William Sydney Pret sho was born September 11, 1862—the create the state of th

This seems to cover about everybody who an read except Lo the poor Indian and Li he poor Chinaman.

this month to the luxury trade. She it was who grounded three times in the fact that hiere was born and taught and reared and molded a man whose thoughts and feelings in the form of stories have gene out to the ends of the sarth and are read by men of all kinds, eater and bonditions. And this is true details the fact that his style in the full flater of its idom is quite untranslatable. A Charlotteville (Va.) barber raced through a shave in 61-2/5 seconds. Now to the fricky ending of many of his for leaks.

stories account for his world-wide popular-ity. It is based on something deeper than that, nothing less than an insight into hu-manity which was ironical, keen, compassionate and not untouched by the vision of the hero of Brickdust Row who no longer saw mankind "as a rabble but his broth seeking the ideal." however far astray their search may lead them.—Greensboro Daily News.

The 83,000-ton Queen Elizabeth returns this month to the luxury trade. She it was who grounded three times in the Clyde when launched, leading to rumors that it might be necessary to take Scotland spart.

The Old Man of The Sea



People's Platform

Test Of A Good Citizen

He does his eating at home or in restaurants, of in theaters.

If he makes a pledge to a charity drive, he

ys it.

12. He knows enough about music to tell the dirrence between "Amarica" and "God Bless America."

13. He thints well of all people until they have
must be desent. "Chief" the desentation of the desent.

15 desent. "Chief" to the second of the desent. "Chief" to the have a good citizen and are entitled to buy ourties a badge. Virtue, we are assured, is its own

-HENRY McCARN.

Disturbed General WASHINGTON

Editors, THE NEWS:

WHEN one is misquoted in the press, there is usually little to be gained by writing letters of denial or correction.

CHARLOTTE

Editors. The News:

ONCE when I was preparing to leave a small town of the contribution of the state of the contribution of the contrib

IF the war is not yet on by the time you get this letter, it would be nice to extend congratulations to you on-your fine-editorial in answer to the statement of Admiral Halsey.

Perhaps it makes the mothers of those alled

I tetter, it would be nice to extend congravuations oryou on your fine editorial in answer to the statementof Admiral Haisey.

Perhaps it make that their sons died in Greece
so that George can now leave Piccadilly Circus and
take. up. his duties as King of Greece. "We mustattengthen the Monarchy" say the British, and itwould be mighty silly, e hwat, if one morning, the Ength control of the state of the state of the state
and it would be mighty silly, e hwat, if one morning, the Engin Christondom. So what to do? They have four
out-of-work kings up in London hotels and they fixed
one up with a job. Now they would like the Russians
to leave Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary and Austria, so
all the Borises, and the Karls and the Stephanos, et
al. It is all tragedy. I tragedy because bewildered
Greeks died before British iend-lease guns shouting
'Roosevelt.' That name will keep resounding through
Europe for many years. Somehow they feel that their
second. Long live George the sixth Long live the
kings, and thrones, and ladies-in-waiting and all that
kind of stuff-let us have spears and lances and
knights in armor and jousting too—'henny-penny,
run and tell the king the sky is failing."

—B. EIDSON.

Will the to be gained by writing letters of denial or correction.

However, when a misquotation offends a large and patrolic, group. when a misquotation offends a large and patrolic, group. When the matter straight.

Recently, a reporter for the NEA Service, Inc. represented me as deprecating the abilities of Reserve ment during the war. This is a downright misquotation and absolutely oritary to everything I have ever said or felt in highest regard and respect for Reserve Officers who one concrete example:

186 long as labor fails to recognize that wage concrete example:

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Barnet Nover

Holes In Iron Curtain

THE gittery mood regarding our relations with Russia and the possibility of an imminent world conflict which seems to have take no possession of the American proposed on t one of the most fear-ridden of city.

Actually has a not true at all.

Actually most account of majoriant in a construction of the construction of

Actually that is not true at all have discovered no important have its really around the corner. Practically all or them feel have it are really around the corner. Practically all or them feel however, that differences of Germany and tensions resulting from the discovered that war is really around the corner. Practically all or them feel however, that differences of Germany and tensions resulting from the discovered that the corner of the state of the content of the

Samuel Grafton

The Bursting Bubble

THERE are signs that the inflationary period may not last too long. One bit of evidence is that long-from one of the long. One bit of evidence is that long-from out and training the long of the long

motable increase, on both the East and West Coasts, in the number of control of the season of our economic future. In the season of our economic future, or season of our economic future, come season of our economic future, refrigerators, and the like, might not come up to expectations, because consumer presources described in the season of the season

the money they have until now been spending for high cost foods. BEGINNING OR END?

I hope this is all clear. Anywhow it shows that men whose not looking almost the termining of a boom, but are delicately and with reserve, talking about the end of one.

Down in Wall Street, islo, men are beginning to remark that men are beginning to remark that the second of the s

FINAL PHASE

minish, as the period lices in the FINAL PHASE

We are now entering that we have now entering that a ronge mised, thinal phase of inflation, in which some prices will incontinue upward after others have already started down; a period in which, for example, labors dominated tremmers, have already begun at the termmers, have already begun at the termmers, have already begun at the termmers, have already begun at the period on the business community, and the period on the business and southern Northern Republicans and Southern Sou

Drew Pearson's: Sec. Byrnes May Quit Because Of Health

rest.

For instance, immediately after the Paris Peace Conference is to be the Assembly of the United Nations, now diready late. After that comes the Penn-American, late of the Conference of the Conference of the Conference of the Conference of the United Security of various meetings of the United Nations Security of various meetings of the United Nations Security.

Best Secretary of State

D'RNES has been hopping back and forth across the Almice ever since he became Secretary of State. In fifteen months he has made seven round trips. Cordell Hull, in twelve long years, made only one air flight across the Atlantic, plus two leisurely steamship trips to Latin America.

In Paris, Byrnes has worked at a terrific pace. Sitting in the Peace Conference all day, keeping on the alert to watch the moves of rival delegates, is a gruelling job. It was the property of the proper

of dapper, publicity-wise Field Marshal Viscount Montgometry agreements of the property of the

'Monty Pivots'

LATER, in the Normandy offensive, Gen. Omer Bradley's officers recall all too vividly how Monty was supposed to break through at Caen, but set there day after day, yelling at Elsenhower for more troops (American troops). Finally