THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1946

#### **Armistice In The War Of Words?**

I is entirely proper that Premier Stalin's test estimate of the world's peace ects be examined with great care. It prospects be examined with great care. It is not the Generalissimo's custom to grant interviews to the press, even restricted, written once, and on those rare occasions when he does so his words always fit into some overall diplomatic pattern. And it is inevitable that any talk of peace from the boas of all the Russias should be greeted with universal skepticism. The peoples of the West do not trust Josef Stalin, and with good reason.

But if Comrade Stalin has some dark and secret motive in holding out an olive branch it seems to have cluded the American press. His statement is questioned, but

can press. His statement is questioned, but the speculation brought forward by the she speculation brought forward by the deditors as to his motives for making it is as varied as the newspapers for which they write. "Stalin makes it clear now that he doesn't think war is just around the corner, and if he doesn't think so, it isn't." may the San Francisco Chronicle. "If Stalling words mean what they say a change in the attitude and activities of Molotov at the In's words mean what they say a change in the attitude and activities of Molotov at the Paris Conference or Gromyko in the Security Council of the UN will be proof," concludes The Washington Fost. "It is part of the Russian enigma that words and actions often ile so far apart," harrumphs The New Fork Times. "The Kremlin may be groping after a real basis of peace," concedes the Republican Herald-Tribune. "To conclude on authority of Mr. Stalin limself with Marxian consistency for more than 25 years," warns The Mr. Stalin himself with Marxian consistency for more than 25 years," warns The Los Angeles Times. "On the whole," says The Atlanta Constitution, "It is a frank and encouraging statement. It gives fresh hope to all those who fear war, Perhaps it disappoints those who seem to talk and want war."

If Comrade Stalin's statement could be accepted at face value it would, indeed, be encouraging. And the most encouraging part of it would be his somewhat boastful statement that the capitalistic democra-cies of the West could not encircle the USSR "even if they wanted to." Such constant defenders of the USSR as Henry Walstant defenders of the USSR as Henry Wal-lace, and such constant apologists as Claude Pepper, have long insisted that Russian aggression is actually defensive, designed to protect her borders against the threat of the hostic West. If Stalin himself isn't whistling in the dark, if he really be-lieves that the USSR is at last capable of defending herself against all comers, at least one compelling motive for war will have been removed. There is no real indi-eation that Mr. Stalin's auspicions of the West have been materially reduced, but

have been removed. There is no real indi-cation that Mr. Stalin's suspicions of the West have been materially reduced, but ven naked distrust is far less dangerous when it is no longer coupled with fear. Certainly the general tone of the Stalin interview is conciliatory, and it seems to us incumbent upon the United States and Britain to meet it with top-level declara-tions of their own. Do Messrs. Truman and Attilee agree with Mr. Stalin that there is no immediate danger of war? Do they be-lieve Russia no longer constitutes a real military threat? If so there could perhaps be a sort of armistice called in the war of words, an armistice that might even lead to the establishment of an area of agree-ment that would permit the translating of peaceful words into deeds. We may regard Mr. Stalin's statement with suspicion, but it would be utter folly to deel it without, in all sincerity, testing it of the country of deep standard of the country of the country of deep standard of the country of the country of the deep standard of the country of the country of the abandoned.

### ${f A}$ Challenge To The Law $\dots$

WHEN he passed sentence on the de-fendants Blanton and Shore at the lusion of the "divorce mill" trial in erior Court last week Judge Frank M. strong referred to the case as "one of the worst in my experience." He has since elaborated on that thesis in a lengthy and

elaborated on that thesis in a lengthy and eloquent statement from the bench, going beyond the immediate aspects of the case to discuss it in broader terms as "a chalenge to law and constituted authority."

The courts, Judge Armstrong pointed out, coept final responsibility for "protecting our lives, liberties, properties, as well as our happiness and well-being." Perjury, or subornation of perjury, strikes at the very heart of the judicial system, for justice must be based upon truth. And when perjury, is the product of a conspiracy to employ the law for private ends, the felony becomes doubly serious.

Every citizen has an obligation to "pro-

Decomes doubly serious.

Wrery clitisen has an obligation to "protect and defend our legal system and institutions, (and) to improve them wherever but this responsibility falls heaviest upon officials of the court, who are immediately concerned with the dispensing of justice. And Judge Armstrong

felt it necessary to include in his remarks a sharp reminder that the responsibility is shared by every lawyer admitted to the

"There has been much said in the trial and argument of this case that lawyers are not required to 'run an investigating agency.' I shall not give a discourse on the duties and responsibilities of lawyers

the duties and responsibilities of lawyers.

. It unquestionably is the duty of an attorney to fully and thoroughly investigate any case he brings into the courts.

Judge Armstrong hopes that the sentences he had imposed upon Blanton and Shore will "serve as a notice and a warning throughout the whole state to others,

"any whom a could be a sentence of the senten ing throughout the whole state to others, if any, who are willing to confederate for such unlawful purposes . ." Perhaps no single, isolated case of this sort is sufficient to accomplish that end, but, as we noted here the other day, the forthright and vigorous handling of this trial should go a long way toward restoring the reputation of the local courts. Judge Armstrong, Solicitor Whitener, Special Agent Gatling, Solicitor Whitener, Special Agent Gatling of the SBI, and Secretary Cannon of the North Carolina Bar have earned Mecklenburg's gratitude.

### The High Cost Of Prohibition

WHEN Bob Flack took over his new duties as City Manager of Durham the other day he had a pleasant surprise waiting for him, a windfall he had almost forgotten during his tenure in Charlotte. There, big as life and almost as welcome was a check for \$76,573.28 forwarded, in-lirectly, by citizens of Durham who have never once complained about the tax the raises that sum every three months for general City purposes.

The \$76,573.28 represents the City's share of the net profits from one curve in the control of the net profits from one curve in the control of the net profits from one curve in the control of the net profits from one curve in the control of the net profits from one curve in the control of the net profits from one curve in the control of th

at the net profils from one quarter's oper-ation of Durham County's ABC stores. The County also gets a piece of the profit, and a portion is earmarked for the mainten-ance of a special law enforcement squad that keeps down bootieg competition to the level nursecory.

the legal purveyors:

Assuming that the citizens of Durham

County consume hard liquor at the same

rate as citizens of Meckenburg (and

intend no offense to either group), it ap
pears that prohibition is now costing the

City of Charlotte \$144,234.70 per quarter, or

\$275,938.20 per annum

s is a particularly interesting figure this season when increased City tax and increased water bills are being mailed out to the citizenry. Certainly \$576,938.80 would by a lot of books for the library, increase lot of policemen's pay, and pave a lot of

streets. It would, in fact, amount to almost one-seventh of the City's annual budget. Of course this money, in the eyes of those who have managed to keep it out of the City Treasury, is "tainted". But somehow we can't find any evidence that the public morals are being improved by diverting this stream of cash into the coffers of South Caroline Burne dealers. Tokated of South Carolina liquor dealers. Tainted

or South Carolina liquor dealers. Tainted or untainted, it seems to us the public Interest would be better served if this half-million dollars were spent for the improvement of the Public Library rather than for the maintenance of a Charleston liquor Molesaler's spent.

Are there those who still believe that the opening of a half-dozen ABC stores in Meeklenburg County would promote a vast crime wave and undermine the morals of our young? Well, Durham, which uses this tidy income for a variety of good purposes, seems to be bearing up right well under the system. It isn't even in the running with Charlotte in the national crime sweepstakes, this "dry" community having now tollmbed to seeond place in the nation in the property of the perfect of murder and to the top ten per cent in such defections as felonious assault.

How long can Charlotte afford to pay over a half million dollars a year to main-tain a prohibition law that obviously does-n't prohibit?

#### Another Voice

#### The Attack On Wilson Wyatt

DEMAND is being made for the ouster of Wilson Wyatt as housing expediter on grounds of inefficiency. A study shows that only 10 per cent of the veterans' housing program has been completed, although 30 per cent of the time has elapsed, and it is charged that he is using the powers and times entirested to him to advance public housing and state socialization.

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sing and state socialization.

since the complaint does not-come from y of the veterans' organizations, but from "National Home and Property Owners undation," whose motives in the matter be altogether belifal, it is well to write a sandenming Mr. Wyatt. There are

shortages of both skilled labor and construction materials for which the housing expediter can hardly be blamed, the de-mand being greater than the supply. Such shortages naturally add to construction time and building costs, but the latter would undoubtedly be greater without the controls which are being condemned as "choking off—the—flow of building mate-"enoking off-the-flow of building mate-rials and discouraging the enterprise of businessmen." No such discouragement can be discerned in Statesville, home construc-tion-here having moved along at a grati-fying rapid pace.—Statesville Daily.

#### 'Here's A Place Advertised In Geneva'



People's Platform

## Well, Where Is It?

Editors, Twn Naws:

I HAVE been trying to compare the editorial in today's paper with the article on the front page of
today's paper. It seems that the Agriculture Department, according to your editorial, infers that all of
the meat was sold out and on the front page they
say that we have an exceedingly large amount of
cattle on the range. But, there is one thing that we
can agree on and that is, there is practically no meat
in the butcher shops.

OS.

—JAMES B. VOGLER,
Executive Secretary,
N. C. Food Dealers Assn.

Executive Secretary,

Executive Secretary,

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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. Libes and obscently will be deleted—otherwise anything oces Each letter must be signed, although, in exceptional cases and upon request, we will withhold the writer's name,—Editors, Tan News,

#### CharLOTTeans?

WHAT to call the inhabitants of a city is a question that is in many cases hard to answer. I have often been puzzled by this, and the matter is again brought to mind by the appearance in a Charlotte News editorial of the word Charlotteans (for residents of Charlotte) and Port Millians (for residents of Fort Mill).

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dents of Fort Mills.

Grapel Hillians, for the people of Chapel Hill, is simple enough. Likewise, Washingtonians, Wilmingtonians, Charlestonians. But what about the people of Chapel Hill, is a simple enough to the simple of the simp

as in Durhamites.
What do you call a person who lives in Sanford
or Dunn or Mt. Olive? Sandforder sounds unnatural,
and Dunner positively unpleasant. Maybe Dunnman or Dunnsman is the right word. Or is t Dunnits? If you are tempted to suggest Mt. Olive-eaters,

that month Mt. Collects and the search of th

and areas, the cuty's most celebrated son, never saw a hill more than ten feet high before he came here to end the University.

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#### Quote, Unquote

Marquis Childs

# The Swedish Outlook

speech in New York. It seemed to unde and unsay everything that find gone before.

To many, it appeared to be a new version of American Isolationism. The doubts and fears raised by the speech have not been entirely resolved by Wallace's resignation.

States, you cannot realize how closely every American move is watched for an indication of our intentions on the one hand and, on the other, our capselty to carry out these intentions. The latter is perhaps almost more important ance an unstable divided United States of the control of the contr

since an unstable divided United States can have no influence white over the state of the state

FOOM.

HOPE FOR BENEFITS

The Swedes, with their great
pride in individualism and their intense competitiveness, are discovering many things about their
Russian neighbors. They believe
they can maintain their inderead still benefit by a
profitable relationship with the
Coloscus of the East.

#### Samuel Grafton

# Anti-Wallace Stampede

NEW YORK
THE attack against Wallace and
his position is becoming too
much of a stampede for our own
good. It is too nearly unanimous
on the surface, to be altogether
sound.

on the surface, to be altogether sound.

If there really were as much manimity of feeling against Wallings as a reading of the national manimity of the feeling against wallings as a reading of the national feelings as a reading of the national feelings as a reading to the national feelings as a reading to the national feelings as a reading to the feelings as a reading to the feelings and the feelings as a reading to the feelings and the feelings against him, and that another is an overwhelming majority feeling against him, and that another is an overwhelming majority feeling against him, and that another is an overwhelming majority feeling against him, and that another is an overwhelming majority feeling against him, and that another is a feeling against him, and that another is a feeling against him, and that another is a feeling against him and the feeling a

out serious question. They stay while the effort is made to cut Wallace and Pepper down from below. like trees, it is true that proper the state of the state of

# Drew Pearson's: Barkley Kin Seeks To Get Nazi-Swiss Firm

WASHINGTON
WITH the public engrossed with Cabinet flare-ups and the
Russian imbrogilo, a lot of juicy plums may go to certain
business firms who know the ropes in Washington.

Manager of the control of

Anti-Lynching Commission

York.
"I am familias with some of these cases," Truman observed, "but didn't realise this brutality was so widespread. I am specked and horrifled by your report."

He added that he realised the lynching problem had not been "adequately dealt with by the Federal Government."

interties. He said that he would be grown believed.

From The Diplomatic Pouch
Treas are seen as the said property of the said person and property iffing in the State Depart
The ment over the way U. S. Ambassador George Measurement
Measurement has been bombobling with the Faceis Person Government
Measurement has even made several talks to Peronis followers to the effect that Argentina will be considered a worth
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as to the set of the seven United States and
Russia" breaks or probable war between United States and
Russia" breaks or probable war between United States and
Russia" breaks only raises his explorive, but it is now.
Smith's transfer may be demanded when Byrnes return
from Paris. . General Espenhover has been asked to sen
specially trained military police to Manila to break up thiev
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