THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1946

A Greeting For The Congress

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THE world of the lawyers is a wonderful
world, and things are not always what
they seem. The hostillities of World War II
did not end legally when men stopped
fighting, put away their guns, shed their
uniforms, and went back home to hunt for
a place to live. They ended on the last day
of 1946, when President, Truman Issued a
proclamation. But, now that hostillities
have ended, both in fact and in legal fiction, it does not mean that the war, or the
war emergency, is over.

An exercise in double-talk, of course, but
a significant one. The Congress established
special war taxes and conferred emergency
powers upon the executive in a variety of
bills—some to be terminated upon cessation of hostillities, some at the end of
the war, others at the end of the war,
regency. The effect of the Fred event few
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the servers to us both legical and comvers. This seems to us both legical and com-

iant ones.

This seems to us both logical and commendable. There is reason to wonder if the stampede toward decontrol has not been too precipitate, starting as it did at the moment the last shot was fired in the Pacific. And there is no denying that decontrol is a measure of Democratic defeat. trol is a measure of Democratic defeat, first in the Congress when OPA was wrecked and later at the polls when the Republicans were given a Congressional majority. But there is no reason to doubt that the President has accepted the Republican victory at face value as a mandate from the people, and is therefore committed to a wholesal reduction of the control of th delay.

This is an expensive process in many ways. It has already cost the President the services of some of his ablest advisers and administrators, and it will throw the budget further out of balance. But it is a logical process, for certainly the economy could not function half-controlled and half-tree When Mr. Truman found that

logical process, for certainly the economy could not fu ne tion half-ree. When Mr. Truman found that he could not for that he did not care to in maintain through the reconversion period the entire complicated structure of warline controls, he had no real choice but to about the controls. The structure of warline controls, he had no real choice but to about the controls. The structure of warline controls, he had no real choice but to about the controls. The structure of the controls was the politics. Its immediate effect is to throw an additional burden upon the Republican Congress, giving it specific responsibility for working out solutions to pressing reconversion problems in the demandary such a confirmed decontroller as Republican Senator wiley of Wisconsin has warned that "all the Government's wartime controls cannot be repealed at a single stroke without inviting chaos." He even got in a tremulous reference to "our responsibilities in the Atomic Age" in issuing a solemn warning to his G.O.P. colling as the colling that the control of the colling that the co

ing a solemn warning to his G.O.P. col-

ing a solemn warning to his GOP. colleagues.
Mr. Truman, of course, has indicated he does not plan to throw up all his powers right away. But he has left no doubt that he will let the Congress set the pace and assume the responsibility for decontrol—that it will be fast or slow as the GO.P. majority demands. This is that co-operation the Republicans have been loudly demanding, but it looks oddly like the boomerang Henry Wallace used to throw around down in the Potomac parks. All told, an appropriate New Year's greetin a from a Democratic President to a Republican Congress.

They're Progressive, But Tired

THE passing of the New Deal left in this wake a good many thousand displaced liberals without a party to call their own. They organized first into ten major political action groups, and this week, under the stimulus of Henry Wallace's oratory, merged into the Progressive Citizens of America.

The door, of course, was left carefully onen to the constitutions.

oratory, merged into the Progressive Citizens of America.

The door, of course, was left carefully open to the possibility of organizing a third party, although most of the lonely liberals still seem to entertain hopes of recapturing their oid Democratic stronghold. But the warning of one of their own members, Harold IcKes, seemed to echo in the hali." A third-party in American politics is as superfluous as a third party on a honeymoon."

Nothing, we should imagine, could more promptly kill in off a third party movement than the lack of enthusiasm of those who are supposed to found it. The only moderately successful third party in recent his-

tory was the Bull Moose, founded when dissident Republicans railled to the banner of Theodore Roosevelt. And that, of course, was a crusade against the reaction of the G.O.P., and the Bull Moosers were fired with an almost holy zeal. The late, William Allen White recalled, in his Auto-Biography, the wild and stirring scenes in Chicago when the rump Republican convention hit the third party trail; he never, he said, saw anything like it, and Mr. White attended a lot of political conventions, including the one in which William Jennings Bryan nalled the Democratic bosses to the cross of gold. If there was any of that feeling of spontaneous combustion about the New York meeting of the Progressive Citizens of American none of it was reflected in the news reports. The liberals seemed, understandaby, not outraged but just plain lived. The political woods, we would say, are still safe from fire.

The Veteran And Civil Service

SOCIETY has a clear obligation to make o up to the veteran the opportunities lost in his years of military service. The Gov-ernment has recognized this in a good any ways—most conspicuously in its pro-am of veteran's education. And many a

gram of veteran's education. And many a private citizen has also recognized it by giving veterans preference in employment. All that it is well and good, but Miriam Roher, a public administration specialist, notes in an American Mercury article that in some instances the matter of veterans' preference has been reduced to absurdity. She cites the Federal Civil Service rulings detailed to the competition of the competition for Covernment Jobs.

Civil Service examinations, desired to

Government jobs.

Government jobs. designed to Getermine and compare aptitudes for special assignments, have long employed an arbitrary numerical rating system based on a perfect score of 100 and a passing grade of 70. Applicants scoring between 70 and, 100 are listed in the order of their scores and the head of the agency concerned must select an applicant from the top three.

top three.

That system has been largely shot to

pleces by the Veterans Preference Act of 1944. Under it any veteran is spotted five points on his Civil Service score, and disabled veterans are spotted ten points. Moreover, in all except certain technical and professional jobs in the higher pay brackets, the veteran's name is automat-ically moved to the top of the list of non-veteran eligibles. Wives and widows of veterans are given much the same priv-lieres.

vectorial regions of the same privileges.

Thus it is possible that a totally unqualified veteran capable of socring only 0 out of 100 points on a Civil Service examination might receive a responsible Covernment job in preference to a highly skilled non-veteran. In some cases it is not only possible, it is invertable.

Giving the veteran a better break is a commendable goal, but certainly it can be a commendable goal, but certainly it can be a commendable goal, but certainly it can be commendable goal, but certainly it can be compared to the commendable goal, but certainly it is fantastic to reward a man for military service by giving him a job he can't handle, and certainly it is doing him no favor.

And, in any event, it points on a Civil Bervice rating sheet seems to be a terribly inadequate substitute for a place to live.

Another Voice

The Goal Of The 'Silent Citizens'

Now Charlotte comes up with a group called "Silent Citizens," described "by riotte man who has been conferring" them as "highly responsible Charlotte

They "are tired of these Washington ittelans telling business men off" so ese business men would take over and gin "telling everybody else off."

The spokesman says these Charlotte men re intent upon "driving the politicians at and turning the Government back into se hands of businessmen."

If such an attitude were not dangerous would be ludicrous.

What they seek is not the common good; at they propose is merely shifting power Washington from the politicians to

There's no argument about the need for change in Washington but what would accomplished insofar as Mr. and Mrs. rerage American are concerned if we sayly shift control from one group to bother?

her?

nat we need is non-group control in hington, a Government responsive to needs of all the people, And we ser-

iously doubt if that will ever be accom-plished under the leadership of a group which hesitates to make its membership

Who are these "responsible business men" who make up this "Silent Citizens" group? And what do they mean by "turning the Government back into the hands of the businessmen?"

Their program would carry far more weight if it had been launched in the full light of publicity rather than in the shadows of anonymity.—Concord Tribune.

The New York teacher who tends bar on the side to make ends meet might give us his authoritative view on saloon fights and how they compared with the latest advances in progressive education.

Biologists have come to believe that the bald individual is in reality more mascu-line than the shaggy brother. And yet one doubts if John L. Lewis would do as a chorus boy.



'Who's Your Little Friend?'



People's Platform

Home Sweet Home

Editors. The News:

JUST another letter concerning the "Old Crost.

J School House." My deepest sympathy to Mrs.

Thomas E. Sherrin, also to Mrs. Linker. We happen to be another family living in one room of the wind of the control of the control

The friendly people of Charlotte should do some-thing about the guys who seem to be forgotten now. The Veterans. Here's wishing sll you folks, with and without a house, Happy New Year.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN SEEGERS.
 MRS. JAMES PADGETT, and the five little girls.

P. S.: We eat in one corner, sleep in the other, sit in another. The fourth corner? The poor old stove occupies it. Regardless of the heat it throws out, we still have to share the fourth corner. But that's "Life in the School."

WINSTON-SALEM

Editors, The News:

Minstens Forty-Seven will be a good year for business if we pull together to make it so. Many of the readjustment essential to the transference of the readjustment of

GAINESVILLE, FLA.

Editors. The News:

I REFER to the letter published in The Platform on 30 December from David Hill, who could new understand or accept as serious your editorial deploring Drew Pearson's column. (Revealing the advenses made at the Gridfuro Interne—Zda.)

May I state that I am in absolute sympathy with you and your editorial? It may be that Mr. Hill has seen too much irresponsibility to think that ethics still mean something to the fourth cetate, but I find

Season's Wishes

Editors, The News:

DEW YEAR wishes are now in season.

NEW YEAR wishes are now in season.

The Wear wishes are now in season.

The word is the control of the wishes and for my people and one for myself. First wish, and for my people are now in the wishes with the wish and for my people of the wishes with the wish and the wish and could be a depression in this nation of ours, for too much talk of a depression may lately firing on the depression.

The wishes with the wishes and could have my wish come true-it would be that I might shake loose from old Pather Time, with all of his shake loose from old Pather Time, with all of his shake loose from old Pather Time, with all of his shake loose from old Pather Time, with all of his shake loose from old Pather Time, with all of his shake loose from old Pather Time, with all of his shake loose from old Pather Time, with all of his shake loose from old Pather Time, with all of his shake loose from old Pather Time, with all of his shake loose from old Pather Time, with all of his shake loose from old Pather Time.

PLORENCE, S. C.

Teen-Agers

CHARLOTTE

Editors, The News:

WE read with much interest the article by Tom
Fesperman in the December 20th edition of The
Fesperman in the December 20th edition of The
Armony-Auditorium for conservative at the
Armony-Auditorium for secret, which you took in the event is greatly appreciated.

It is the sincere desire of this commission to
the property of the commission of the commission to
took a pool recreasion program, and we feel that the
publicating of our activities by the newspapers will
do much to further our program, Coff A. SUTTER.

Anvi. Director of Eceration.

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications also been supported by the state of the state of

Quote, Unquote

A NATION that has the genius to split the atom will find a means to enable its people to stay alive and well so that they may live out their days in useful service.—Dorothy McCullough Lee, Portland, Ore, utilities commissioner.

land, Ore, utilities commissioner.

I think the closed shop is the nost reactionary and illiberal thing that we've got in our industrial picture. There is no real justification for it any more.—Senator Joseph H. Ball, Republican, of Min-

It is clear that if the United Nations organization is to be used as a forum for debating ideological differences it will fall.—British Prime Minister Clement Attlee.

Marquis Childs

Cost Of Occupation

Samuel Grafton

The Egg And Bricker

der whether it was the specci, whether it was the specci whether it was the section for the special property and special property and special property and it don't vary much from year to year, and I don't property was decidedly worse than another. The interesting possibility is rater. The interesting the property is recommended by the property of the pro

ITS A FACT

THERE is still some mystery as

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In the Conservative method has already been installed, and is opto the Conservative method has already been installed, and is opto N NEW STAGE

ON NEW STAGE

All, which produced this change and
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all, which produced this change and the presidential candidate; but I wonresidential candidate; but I wonwhether it want these changing
times.

TAFT AS EXAMPLE

Drew Pearson's: GOP Senators Would Debate Peron Policy Merry-Go-Round

PIRST big test of a continued nonpartisan foreign policy will come over the vital question of whether U. S. Ambasador George Messersmith is licking the boots of Argentine Dictator Peron.

Dictator Peron.

Senators, hard-hitting Brewster of Market Perophilican Senators, hard-hitting Brewster of Market Perophilican Wherry of Nebraska are out to rake U. S. mid-Percoferous Wherry of Nebraska are out to rake U. S. mid-Percoferous Perophilican Senators of Nebraska are out to rake U. S. mid-Percoferous Wherry of Nebraska are out to rake U. S. mid-Percoferous Wherry the Perophilican Perophil

fore the Senate Foreign Relations Committee or before use full Senate.

Meanwhile, Ambassador Messersmith himself has been summoned from Bisenos Aires for a review of his friendship policy with President Peron. Secretary of State Byrnes, hitherto busy with European affairs, will soon make the final decision as to whether we work with or against Peron. Upon the outcome of his off-the-record talks with Messersmith will depend the future course of U. S. policy in much of South America. For aiready Argentina is reaching out, somewhat like Hilder, to take over its weaker neighbors. There were some some second to the second control of t

to the USA a little later. He explained that Mandl should wait for fear the "irresponsible American press" might make it embarrassing if he entered the Tips available.

Airline Dynamite

THE dynamite now exploding inside Trans World Airlines
between Jack Pyre, its president, and Howard Rughes,
its chief stockholder, has caused members of the Givil
Aeronautic Board to begin some careful probing of the sivadeferment of the stockholder, has caused members of the Givil
Aeronautic Board to begin some careful probing of the sivasurvivers nearly as well as the airline ballyhoo indicates.
Among other things, at companies operated in the red
during the first nine months of 1946—TWA, Colonial, Chicago
and Southern, Northeastern, Pennanyirania-Central, and
well of the stockholder, Charles, and
well of the stockholder, Pennanyirania-Central, and
well of the stockholder, Pennanyirania-Central, and
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