

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1947

For A State Wage-Hour Law

INSUTABLY, there will be considerable opposition to the wage-hour law now before the Legislature. A few employers will fight it on a dollar and cents basks, complaining that they cannot afford to pay workers 18 for a 40-hour week, but this sounds a little thin in this season of this sounds a little than in this season inflation. Most of the opponents, we suspect, will rely upon a theoretical defense — opposition to any additional encroachment of government into the sacred precincts of free enterprise.

They have an argument in principle, of course, and it's not a bad one. But it seems to us that the theory of minimum wage legislation has now become so well-established in this country as to be almost beyond legitimate controversy.

The bill sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Labor seeks to extend to virtisfialy all intrastate workers — with the exception of farm and domestic labor — the provisions of the Federal Wage-Hour Law. The Federal law, in operation now for almost a decade, has certainly been thoroughly tested. And it now has all but universal approval; the Republican Party has given it its official blessing, as has the National Association of Manufacturers and the United States Chamber of Commerce.

Because of its universal application, it cannot be argued that a wage-hour law works an undue hardship on any individu-al employer. If it forces an increase in

wages in one laundry, for instance, it also forces a similar increase in all other laundries, and there is no basic change in the competitive relationship. Nor can it be argued that the state law would involve employers in additional red tape: existing legislation requires the maintenance of employment records and provides that they must be made available to Labor Department inspectors, all that would be required under the proposed statute.

required under the proposed statute.

More than half of North Carollula's workers are now covered by the Federal landing are how head of no movement has been been do no movement between the control of the mark of the marker of the marker count that placing a fixed floor under wages and a fixed enling on hours has contributed materially to the stability and efficiency of their operation. They do oppose, in many cases, any further elevation of the wage floor, but this is really a separate question having nothing to do with the basic principle.

ing nothing to do with the basic principle. The fact that a man works for a company engaged in interstate commerce doesn't make his job any easter, or necessarily require of him any higher skill. Yet thousands of North Carolinians work shorter hours and are paid better wages than thousands of other North Carolinians for no more valid a reason than this. This, laying, aside all other considerations, seems to us to make passage of the proposed state wage-hour act a matter of simple justice, and we hope it will so impress the Legislature.

Where Have You Been, Senator?

WE WROTE a few days ago that it apported charges of Communism hurled at David Lillenthal by Senator McKellar of Tennessee were missing them to the confirmed as Chairman of the Atomic Benefits of the Commission. We were wrong. It appears now that the Regulblean Party may vote in a body against his confirmation; at least Senator Taft, the Senate's GOP. leader, has announced his opposition.

At the same time we predicted that Mr.

leader, has announced his opposition.

At the same time we predicted that Mr.
McKellar, protected by Senatorial courtesy,
would receive no reprimand from his col-leagues for his disgraceful and Irrespon-sible performance. We were right about
that. Far from receiving a reprimand, he
has been eulogized by his colleague from
Temessee, Senator Stewart, in The Con-gressional Record.

what makes Senator Stewart's statement so remarkable is his bland assumption that only Marquis Childs, the Washington columnist, has condemned Senator McKellar, Quoting from the Childs column that characterized the attack on Mr. Lillenthal as "a dishonorable performance," he said: "This is the first time in my acqualitance ever called him dishonorable or dishonest." Well, we don't know what Senator Stewart was the contract of the contract of

has been reading all these years. Many of the newspapers in his home state have had here had been read to be the state have had the state have had been read to be the state had been read to be the state of the sta

Congressional Record.

But Senator Stewart doesn't rest with his defense of Senator McKellar. He goes on the senator McKellar is the senator of Senator McKellar is senator to the honor and integrity" of Boss Crump of Memphis, Senator McKellar's acknowledged mentor. We can only wonder if Senator Stewart's subscription to The Nashrille Tennesseen has by any chance evoired.

The Senator took particular offense at this paragraph in the Childs column:

Tennesses's delegation in Concress is well above the average if one excludes Mc-Kellar. It is largely composed of men of capacity and integrity. But the stain of McKellar and, behind him, Boss Crump of Memphis, spreads a long way.

It seems to us that Senator Stewart's peculiar speech furnishes proof positive that the peculiar stain has spread a long way indeed.

History Can't Be Legislated

THE Education Committee of the House of Representatives turned in a good day's work yesterday when, by unanimous vote, it killed the bill by Representative Dellinger of Gaston that would have de-fined the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence as gospel truth and required that all teachers in the state so accept it. The Committee reported the bill unfavor-ably with no comment, but it seems to us a few words are in order here.

a few words are in order here.

Mecklenburgers certainly appreciate
Representative Dellinger's sincere effort
to defend a proud his to rical tradition
against its detractors. But lew of them,
we belleve, would have approved his
method. His bull would have required the
revision of all textbooks to remove therefrom any reference to the questions ratsed by historians and statesmen from
Thomas Jefferson forward. It would have
established, by law, one version of the
Declaration and required that no other
be taught in the public schools.

Obviously history cannot be herislated.

Obviously, history cannot be legislated. The Mecklenburg Declaration existed prior to the fire in John McKnitt Alexander's

house, or it didn't, and no amount of leg-islative shillyshallying can alter that fact, We believe, after examining all available evidence, that it did exist, and we share the County's pride in those doughty old freemen who assembled in Charlotte on May 20, 1775 to declare their independence from the British tyrant A coof many com-May 20, 1775 to declare their independence from the British tyrant. A good many competent historians also share that opinion, and the State of North Carolina long ago gave the Declaration official recognition when it embiazoned the date upon the State flag. That, so far as we can see, is all the State can be expected to do; anything beyond a simple resolution expressing faith in the Alexander version of the Declaration is out of order.

The Dellinger Bill was based on a dubious The Dellinger Bill was based on a dublous theory — the Idea that government is empowered to decide whether highery is true or false. That sort of arbitrary power, indeed, was the very thing the Mecklenburgers rebelled against in 1775. The signers of the Declaration piedged themselves to "use every exertion to spread the love of liberty," and certainly it would be most limproper to restrict, in their name, the right of every North Carolinian to seek the truth.

Another Voice

'Remember The Dorchester'

So LITTLE remembered is the story of the Dorchester that most histories of the war years pass it over — by name un-noticed and ignored, as if in ignorance or forgetfulness of the mighty heroism which must come to stamp its memory.

The Dorchester was the victim of a German torpedo off Greenland four years ago. The transport went down in an agonizing flash. There was little time to man the lifeboats and distribute life belts. And there were too few boats and too few belts for the struggling passengers plunged into the ley Atlantic.

But the death toll was smaller by four because of an heroic act of sacrifice. The deed bears the names of Poling, Pox, Washington and Goode, the four chaplains aboard the Dorchester. They gave their life belts to other men. They — two Protes-tants, a Catholic and a Jew — joined hands in prayer and went down with the ship.

In simple ceremonies they have been re-

membered; at the dedication of a swim-ming pool in a veterans center, named for the four; in scrolls and plaques-pre-sented to families and friends, and in an unforgettable drawing of the dying Dor-chester which depicts their sacrifice.

chester which deplets their sacrifice.

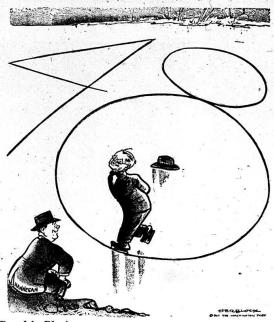
But this should not be all. Soon the American people will observe Brotherhood Week, a time of testimony to the tenets of tolerance and understanding and unity which were so Precious in the war years and which are indispensable to peace. Is there a better symbol than this sacrifice of Protestant, Catholic and Jew in the name of humanity? We think not. For beside, and even above, Pearl Harbor there needs to stand:

"Remember the Dorchester."

—Asheville Cilizen.

Can Spring be far behind? We are glad ou asked that, and will try to answer it n the weeks ahead.

'You're Cutting A Nice Figure, Harry'



People's Platform

On Presidential Tenure

Editors, The Newsy IT gets me how your editorials on controversial subjects so often overlook the most obvious and well-recognized points on the other side of the fene. The latest case in point is your editorial entitled 'The Case of the Gored Ox' which discusses the current effort to limit the Presidency to two four-

The Case of the Gorea ux without the process of the Gorea ux without the process of the grant of

P. S. Anyway, how can an election be termed, as you say, "completely free" when at least 10 per cent of our voters may be working for the "ins", as in 1942?

(NOTE: We didn't say "completely free," just plain, "free", The "ins" of 1942, were still the 'ins' of 1942, were still the 'ins' of 1944, and presumably still controlling ten per cent of 1946, and presumably still controlling ten per cent ten years of Democratic entrenchment, that services ten years of Democratic entrenchment, that services from the Democratic entrenchment, that services from the Democratic entreloop both Houses of Constant Democratic entreloop in the Demo

In Rebuttal

GAFFNEY, S. C.

In Rebuttal

GAFFNY, S. G.

Gittors, The News:

O'N February 8 a Sives. In this satisfie, Mr. Sinton space of the state of

we add these statements together, anyone can see that the consumer trade through the liquer store has increased liquer consumption in South Carolina. I suppose our population has increased but not this much.

Mr. Sutton states: "I don't think much of the indirect co-operation of clurch leaders and laymen indirect co-operation of clurch leaders and laymen only way to have liquer sold." No true Christian would agree with this statement because we are as anguch against the booklegger shim liquor us a legal-any right way to sell it.

Mr. Sutton states that any horsest person cannot have been supposed to the control of the control of

son Mr. Sutton is howling.

I agree with Mr. Sutton that the church, the school, and the home have an opportunity to help the school and the home have an opportunity of help the school and the school a

Up To Date FORT BRAGG

FORT BRAGG Editors, The News:

I AM a soldier stationed in the Sind Athburne Division at Fbrt Bragg and have been reading Tue News for the past three months.

My father is Congressman Loe E Allen of Galena, Illinois, the sponsor of the graduated income tax bill now in the Ways & Means Committee and of bill now in the Ways and the state of Galena, Illinois, the sponsor of the graduated income tax bill now in the Ways & Means Committee and of bill now in the Ways & Means (and the past in the past three months that your newspaper has given a just, fair months that your newspaper has given a just, fair the day, May I also state that of all nices of the papers I have read throughout the country I consider yours one of the lineat and most up to date in giving the readers an honest opinion of the matter than the past of the past

My congratulations to you, your staff, and the workers of The News.

—PVT. RICHARD B. ALLEN.

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications possible, and on only one side of the energy that and on only one side of the energy that and obscently will be deleted—otherwise singthing one. Each letter must be signed, alter will suit to work the side of the control of the contro

Marquis Childs

Truman Transformed

October who kept talking about his impossible job.
One incidental result of this transformation is the speech which Democratic Chairman Robert Hannegan recently made in New York. Both Hannegan and the White House could say quite homestly that there was no collusion in that speech.

there was no collusion in that speech runan and the political chief of his party understand each other so well that no go-shead signal from the White Roses was new-dent's nomination in 1948. When Hannegan returned from his long ret cure in Frorida, the President sensor health possibly permitted, he would have to stay on in his would have to stay on the stay of the Postmart Central It was a new spoke to his lleutenant.

Postumater General. It was a new and authoritative commander who spoke to his leutenare and authoritative commander who spoke to his leutenare and authoritative commander who spoke to his leutenare and the second of the covernment in the second of the covernment in such a way that the line of responsive the second of the covernment in such a way that the line of responsive the second of the covernment in the second of the covernment in the second of the second

sent, and it also marked the return sent, and it also marked the return of Hannegan from Florida.

BYRNES: HANDICAP MANDICAP to the contributed to Cabinet post has contributed to I. Cabinet post has contributed to I. Cabinet post has contributed to I. Cabinet post has contributed to the harmony that prevails today in the harmony that prevails to the harmony that prevails to the harmony that have been stilled in a kind of condescension toward the reduction. It must, after all, have been stilled in the harmony to the harmony to

Samuel Grafton

French Tranquility.

THE biggest puzzle in Prance is the political tranquility, of the moment. This has some of its robot, of course, in the war. In the moment. This has some of its robot, of course, in the war. In some the called the dergy's growing political power and then, and quality of them were the political power and then, and quality of the properties of the proper

Communist Party and the head of the Republican Party, say William Peter and Thomas Desey, I sup-pose the Party of the Party of the names, unless Tatt has pushed powey completely out since I left America on my travels. You wouldn't get much that was new couldn't get much that was new COMMUNIST LINE COMMUNIST LINE

Drew Pearson's : Palace Guard Sore At Hannegan's Action

THE White House palace guard was really burnt up at Bob Hannegan for tossing Trumans hat into the ring for Hannegan for tossing Trumans hat into the ring for the part of playing politics.

In the part of playing politics are the preside it running high. No matter what he does now, they say, he will be accused of playing politics.

The part of playing politics are part of part

The Merry Mortician

Senator Merry Mortician

Canaly On Kennelin Wherry, Nebraska's merry mortician, Canaly On Kennelin Wherry, Nebraska's merry mortician, Canaly Canaly

takings.

White House Stamps

PRESIDENT TRÜMAN doesn't go in for his predecessor's
favorite hobby of stamp collecting, but another member
of his family does be Poage of Waco. Texas, yent over to
the White House the other day to offer the President the

hospitality of Waco when he returns from Mexico City, and noted on the Presidential desis several booklets filled with stamps.

"You ought to see these, Bob," said the President, opening one. Thise are Egyptian stamps which the Egyptian Ambassador gave me for Margaret's stamp collection. much about istamps.

Note-Interesting fact about the stamp gift by the Egyptian Ambassador is that while he could legally give them to Margaret Truman, he could not have given them to United States to receive gift from a foreign government. FDR's secretary, Miss Lehand, used to insist that stamp collections given him by foreign governments be sent to the stamp stamp of the president frequentity hid the stamp gifts before she could dispose of them.

Tax Car Knutson

Minnsorth, Rep. Harold Knutson, whose self-styled role to take any chances about being control of the House Ways & Means Committee.

In the control has been challenged of inte, doesn't plan to take any chances about boding control of the House Ways & Means Committee.

Meeting in secret season has week, Knutson wasted Meeting in secret season has veek, Knutson wasted the properties of the properties of the properties of provises. In other words, no matter how many Republican members may be out playing agol or mending polluted intense when a committee meeting is scheduled. Chairmitee the hough a majority of those on hand for the metaless. Even though a majority of those on hand for the metaling may be Democrate, the COP—by voting provise—can prevail.

Scrappy Representative Herman Eberhard Car sanination was the control of the provise.

"Provise have been used in this committee in the past, and I have objected." Eberharter addies of the House, and we all know proxise cannot be voted in the House as a whole.

"It is not unusual for a committee, by unanimous concent, to permit the use of proxies, argued 2-becharter, but
that is good legislative procedure only when the proxy to be
voted is that of a member whoh as been attending previous
hearings of the particular matter under consideration. If
he is unable for some good reason to be on land for the vote,
opinion of his own, then the use of his proxy is reasonable.
"But your proposal, Mr. Chalrman," becharter continued, "means that members don't have to take any interest
in the problems before the committee so long as they can be
registered for or against a proposal. It means that only a
two parties simply saying, to ahead and put me down for
what you think."

Knutson immediately executed.

Knutson immediately overruled Eberharter's point of order, but the Pennsylvanian served notice he will raise it against whenever proxies are used.

Earlier in the meeting Riuston, who is no wowried over public reaction to his tax proposal for saving millions for the upper brackets but only a few dollars for low-income taxassers, see that the committee immediately—with the committee immediately—with the committee immediately—with the committee many committee with the committee many committee many committee many committee with the committee many committee with the committee many committee was offered by the committee many force of the committee many before the Ways & Massa Committee was offered by the committee with the committee of the committee with the committee with the committee without mills of Arkansas, who untailly votes with the important tax bill. Congress has considered in many year, and the committee without mills of Arkansas, who untailly votes with the important tax bill. Congress has considered in many year, and the committee of the committee

Merry-Go-Round

INSPIRED by the boxing bout between GOP Senators Cain of Washington and Wherry of Nebrasks. Sam Costello of the Arthur Murray dance studio in Cleveland has offered to fly judges and costumes to Washington for a glamour-and-rhumba contest between Democratic and Republican members of the Senate. Each contestant is promised a free rhumba tesson before the judging begins.