THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

MONDAY, MARCH 24, 1947

Nowhere To Go But Down

THE price the consumer finally pays for a product is established by a long chain of raw materials producers, proceschain of raw materials producers, proces-sors, manufacturers, jobbers and retailers. When prices are high he may have an ob-seure feeling that "business" has somehow entered into a giant conspiracy to milk him. It won! save him any moucy, but he may be relieved to know that "business"— or at least the manufacturing portion of it— is as worried about high prices as he is.

Mill & Factory, one of the leading indus-Mill & Faclory, one of the leading indus-trial publications, reports in its current is-aue the results of a survey of 1,000 execu-tives in manufacturing establishments of various sizes turning out various commod-lities. The poll was designed to find out what has happened to prices since cellings were removed in November, and what the prospects for the united of the property of the prospects of the profit of the property of the property of the profit of the property of the most cases and profits satisfactory, most manufacturers are far from pleased over their current situation.

manufacturers are far from pleased over their current situation.

In 61 per cent of the cases reported it has been necessary to raise prices since 074 was scuttled. The other 39 per cent have been able to hold prices steady, but in no case have prices been reduced. Only 15 per cent of the manufacturers expect to be able to reduce prices by the Summer of 1947 even parring general wage in creases, atrikes or other uncontrollable cost factors; 72 see cent between the prices of the cost of the cos

strikes or other uncontrollable cost factors; 72 per cent hope to hold present levels through the Summer, while 13 per cent forcese further increases.

The most disturbing reply, however, came in answer to this question: "Assuming that wages will remain at their present level, do you feel that within the next few years increased productivity in your plant, due to improved labor efficiency and technological advances, will permit you to sell your products at materially lower prices?" Only \$1 per cent could see any

chance of price reductions on that basis; the others apparently feel that their productive efficiency is at peak.
Yet 44 per cent of these same manufacturers recognize that their present price levels are too high for a normal market. In the detailed comment reported by Fectory many analysis pricing themselves out of the market. Some of them blamed their own suppliers for "having lost touch with the consumers market." Others could only piace the blame on a combination of circumstances beyond their, or anybody elses, control.

This adds up to a prediction that a normal market is at least two years away. Many manufacturers believe that prices will never return to pre-war levels. And it seems to be the concensus that there cannot be any reduction in prices at all this

will never return to pre-war levels. And its seems to be the concensus that there cannot be any reduction in prices at all this side of a recession severe enough to force adjustments all along the line:

Almost half of the manufacturers polled—48 per cent—believe that a "sharp but short—lived recession" is a certainty before the end of 1947. The poll did not take them beyond that possibility, but individual comment indicates that many believe that the recession, or a series of "dipt", will uitimately bring production costs and prices down to a level that can be maintained permanently. One West Coast manufacturer figured there must be "an over-all 25 per cent reduction in consumer's prices before business can be afabilitied entitled by the complished without some economic pain and suffering. Nevertheless, the survey can only be regarded as good news from the consumer's standpoint. It indicates that producers now recognize that prices cannot so higher, or even be maintained at present levels. The only place they can go, then, is down—and the sooner the decline starts the better it will be for all concerned.

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The Southerners And Lilienthal

THE latest Associated Press survey of the Senate indicates that the appoint-ment of David Lilienthal as chairman of ment of David Lillenthal as chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission will be con-firmed by a comfortable margin. The sur-vey also shows a considerable cleavage within both the Republican and Demo-cratic Parties. This, in a way, is comforting for it indicates that the effort to reduce the issue to the level of party politics has failted. the it, is appears, will be along ideo-logical lines. Since even his bitterest ene-

mies, with the exception of Senator Mc Kellar who concedes nothing, have agreed that Mr. Lilienthal is competent to dis-

heals who concludes to a super-tiant Mr. Lillenthal is competent to dis-charge the duties assigned him, the sole-point of attack has been his liberalism. De-apite the lack of any proof to sustain such a view, such GOP stalwarts as Senators Taft and Bricker have announced opposi-tion to Lillenthal based on the suspicion that he has Communist sympathies this Some conservative Democrats share this view, but it seems they will be a small mi-nority. Their opposition is complicated by the fact that no Democratic complicated by the fact that no Democrat can cast asper-eions upon Mr. Lillenthal's p at r l of 1 sm, without also questioning the integrity, or at least the judgment, of two Democratic Presidents. He was, after all, head of the

Tennessee Valley Authority under Franklin Roosevelt, and his nomination to the Atomic Energy Commission has been for-discountied to the Party S. Truman.

It is true that party loyalty has meant little to most Southern Senators in the last two years. They have boiled the Party line any time they fell like it to once with the Republicans, and most of them have fell like it often. Opposition to Mr. Lillenthal, however, would be extreme disloyalty, for the Senate's failure to confirm one who had held such responsible positions under two Democratic Administrations would be a body blow to the Party.

At any rate, we are pleased to note that

At any rate, we are pleased to note that both North Carolina Senators are publicly both North Carolina Senators are publicly pledged to support the Lillenthal appointment. As we remarked some time ago, the exhaustive investigation of Mr. Lillenthal's record by the Senate Atomic Committee and its failure to produce any black marks against him, has made the final vole on the floor much more of a test of the Senate than it is of Mr. Truman's appointee. We are proud that Messra, Roey and Umstead have turned their back on that band of impassioned Senators of both parties who have allowed themselves to be swayed by personal malfie, narrow partiasnship, or by personal malice, narrow partisanship, or hysterical fear of Communism.

Spring Always Comes Again

IT came late, a little timidly, unhered in by a freak anow storm, but Spring is here, and Spring, as always, is welcome. It is the season of the turning fancy, the exploding bud, the rising sap—above all, it is the season of hope. In the cycle of the season it is the gay and tender and sentimental time: no matter what the arbitrary of the control of

mental time; no matter what the arbitrary calendar may say the swinging plantes remaind that the new year begins here, in this time of birth and rebirth,

The gray enemy, Winter, is vanquished. Boring presents nature's eternal challenge. The farmer strides across his fields, paundig to scoop the soft earth in his fingers and feel its texture, plotting a pattern of orderly furrows against the sweep' of the land. The prodding wife or the gnawing

conscience sends the dormant city-dweller out to gase hopefully upon the ravaged lawn and the bare, lumpy garden plot. There's a quiet excitement in the air. Ther mind recognizes that Spring is eternal, that The second the second second that the spring is a certain second that the second se

Another Voice

Excursion Into Grandeur

TVERYONE has occasional day dreams to dimportance and power, We are enjoying one-right now, and we would like. For our next excursion into grandeur, to change places just once with Mrs. Kathryn Crawford of Hanna, Indiana (population "unscheduled stop" — and Mrs. Crawford stops. L'ansaya nas occasional day dreams of importance and power, We are en-joying one right now, and we would like, for our next excursion into grandeur, to change places just once with Mrs. Kathryn Crawford of Hanna, Indiana (population 400).

No, she has not been chosen Queen for a

No, she has not been chosen Queen for a Day. No, she has not suddenly inherited \$10,000,000. Nor is she about to marry any current screen idol — Mrs. Crawford is 68 and prob a by just interested. She may have a perfectly good husband anyway, for all we know.

But Mrs. Crawford possesses a magic tallisman, a document \$\frac{1}{2}\$ years old. By its mere presentation she can command the most imperially independent of American ruliroads to stop any of its filers at her home town to take her on or let her off. An ancestor bought this privilege for himself and lineal descendants back in 1833 for a right of way through his farm and some tons of sand and gravel.

And abe is now excelsing her superimperial percegative for the third time. On Estimatay, March 15, Instead of roaring

And that, just at this moment, is our idea of magnificence. —Christian Science Monitor.

Free wigs for ex-service men are now available, thanks to a beneficient Veterans Administration. So much for a canard that the GI with no roof over his head is with-out friends in the capital.

How strange that auto insurance rates jump at a time when a sedan the age of ours should begin to live off its annuity.

Dora is the one who, while pawing through a dresser, says, "I've lost a glove." That is, I've found one."

'I Thought I Told You To Stay Down'



Financing Good Health

(NOTE: The original blueprint for a "North Carolina Hospital Building Program, 1947-51" pre-pared by the Medical Care Commission now seems certain to be adopted by the General Assembly without major change. Here are the basic as-sumptions upon which the plan is predicated and the Commission's recommendations, as originally without major change. Feet are the doson as-sumptions upon which the plan is predicated and the Commission's recommendations, as originally presented to the Advisory Budget Commission The condensation is reprinted from the Univer-sity of North Carolina News Letter.—Eds., Tar News).

IT IS assumed that Congress will make the appropriation authorized by the \$75,000,000 a year Hill Burton Bill and that the amount allotted North Carolina per year will not be less than the amount authorized for the first year, which would make the following total amounts of aid from the Hill-Burton.

For	the	vear	ending	June	30.	1947_		3,482,835
			ending					3.482.835
For	the	vear	ending	June	30.	1949		3,482,835
			ending					3,482,835
								3,482,835
		70.0					-	
	Tota	ıl						17.414.175

Total

S17.414_115

Because North Carolina's birth rate is unusually high and hence total death rate low.

Fig. 10 to 10

ON the basis of the foregoing estimates the following recommendations are made:

or ing recommendations are made:

1. That the General Assemblies of 1947 and 1949
take steps to fully utilize the \$17,500,000 (round figures) that North Carolina may expect in Hill-Burton
grants 1947-51.

That the state program of hospital building look to these objectives—

thesé objectives—

(a) Insuring our citizens the advantages of a good hospital within from 1 to 25 miles of ever family;

(b) With assurance that every county will have either a hospital or one or more Health Centers, and (c) Providing additional beds for mental, tuberculous, orthopedic, blind, and spastic patients.

3. In the case of mental and tuberculous hospitals of the state and Teaching Hospital at the University of North Carolina, the State will be the owner of the buildings and edispunent, hence would supply two-thirds of the cost of additional best with the Hill-Button and Call the state of the Carolina and the Carolina and State of the Carolina and the State Government.

4. In the case of local general hospitals and health centers—funds in the aggregate should be provided in the general proportion of—

51 from Hill-Button aid

51 from the State Government.

51 from the State Government.

51 from the county or locality.

Frovided however that the State In its magnitiment has itself one with the State In the Provided mover that the State In Its magnitiment has listed done in initiating this nationwide program: it must provide much more financial help the richer and more prosperous areas.

Herice it is recommended that hospital construction be helped by the State in variable amount ranging from 10 per cent of the cost of approved health of the cost of

Senator Soaper Says:

MUCH better for converting the Russians would be our regular radio shows, as only under capi-talism does the dazed houselfe receive a refrigerator, an automatic washer and a new hat for not remem-bering her own name.

By being unexpectedly agreeable on the matter of Pacific islands, the Red chum leaves our diplomate with 108 undeveloped speeches denouncing Soviet ob-jections. Is there no end to the duplicity of this character?

Let us lie back and enjoy a great war that now rages, between famed child psychologists who were rocked by their mothers when they bawled, and others who were frustrated into their present emi-

Marquis Childs Wave Of The Future?

isolationists.

There is still a chance to habout peaceable democratic chin Greece. Unfortunately Mr. man, in his specifications. Aitheir will not be easy, the chanciters.

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN

It seems to me important to ALTHOUGH Soviet Russies two
Aleading newspapers, Pravda and
Investin, are very hard up-for
newsprint, they each devoted two
columns to what Henry Wallace
columns to what Henry Wallace
Truman's message on Greece and
Truman's message on Greece
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Truman's message on Greece and
Truman's message on Greece

Truman's message on Greece and Turkey. In Wallace's highly emotive the control of the control of

dictatorably in smashed and runco Greece.

Those who would withhold aid until Greece changed her Govern-ment are indulcing in a wishful antaay. The situation in Greece is so close to smarthy or dictator-decent direction without guidance and material help. fiture."

In that controversy of seven years ago, Wallace was a highly emotional crusader on the other side. Campaigning for Vice - President, he called the Republican Party the "party of appeasement" and thereby stirred an angry political hornets' nest. Of course no one can stop change.
But as President Roosevelt knew
ever well, it is possible to direct
the course of change in one way or
another. In 1404, a person of Anne
another, in 1404, a person of Anne
another, in 1404, a person of Anne
in strainge company as the bitterenders sought, to prevent any help
to Great Britain. In 1947, Wallace,
was past reputation for integrity
is high, finds himself ceeling war
and disaster in the company of
Hoffman of Michigan and other

and materials with the control of th

Samuel Grafton

Thoughts On Britain

Wilter as a time of comparative plenty, in the same way in which some of them look back on the war between the comparative plenty, and the same way in which some of them look back on the war between the first back of a time, while they work. English one feels that they are considered prayer. Yet if one knows the English, one feels that they are thinking, at you like the English one feels that they are thinking, at you like they are thinking, at you like they are thinking, at you like they leaving India, and with did they pleaving India, and with did they be the control of the thinking and their proposed March 1 exit from Greece on Pech A; they leaving the work of which in the plan. One can sense this being the property of the plan of the British prayer thinking, at you like they were the plan of the British prayer that they leaving India, and way the plan of the plan of the British prayer thanking, at you like the plan of the British prayer thanking and their proposed March 1 exit from Greece on Pech A; the plan of the British prayers the plan of the British prayers the prayers that the plan of a time, while they were the plan of the British prayers the plan of the British prayers the plan of the plan of the British prayers the plan of the British prayers the plan of th

Drew Pearson's : GOP Is Trumping Good Democratic Bills Merry Go-Round : GOP Is Trumping Good Democratic Bills

V former news editor of the New Orleans States, stumbled on a new Republican policy the other day.

Hebert, who can't get out of the habit of being a news-when he introduced a bill making it a felony to brite or attempt to bribe an athlete. His move, coming just after the bribery seandal involving New York football players, the bribery seandal involving New York football players. The Louisians Democrat said nothing. But last week antagely introduced an almost identical measure.

The Louisians Democrat said nothing. But last week anderime in the District of Columbia, introduced an alsoholite hill. The never-ending stream of drunks that crowd Washielm. The never-ending stream of drunks that crowd Washielms, and Hebert's bill set up machinery whereby alcoholite was to be treated not as a crime but as a disease. He proposed alcoholic clinics to be paid for by the liquor interests. Psychiatrics, crime experts, even prohibitionsis, halled it as a solution to one of the country's great problems.

MacArthur's Old Friend

WHEREUPON, Republican Congressman Arthur Miller of Kimball, Neb. suddenly introduced an identical alco-holics bill of his own. Merely lifting the language of Con-holics bill of his own. Merely lifting the language of Con-thing the Conference of the Conference of the Niller is the Nebraska Congressman was man as a the top. Miller is the Nebraska Congressman was made as the top. Miller is the Nebraska Congressman was made as the con-war when he published General MacArthur's own letter about his political ambitions. Since then Miller lapsed back into obscurity until he turned up in the new Congress as chairman of a subcommittee on the District of Columbia. And as subcommittee chairman, he announced that from

Immediately a storm broke loose in the secret committee sion which followed.

session which followed.

I am rather embarrassed to bring this matter up, and the degreement followed.

Tam rather embarrassed to bring this matter up, and the degreement followed in sponsors that the subcombination of the committee had reintroduced my bill until 1 read about it in the papers, which has caused me to wonder if which as individual sponsors legislation. In committee in the subcombination of the committee in the subcombination of the subcombinat

New GOP Policy

New GOP Policy

THE based-sub told me to introduce this bill in my name."

The property of the majority party and we are going to be responsible for all good regards to understand that a Democrat or a member of the present minority party has no right to introduce and sponsor progressive and constructive legislation in his own name. The property of the property of

That's right," replied Mülér.

"Then the present majority party is of the opinion that the minority party has no rights at all?" saked the Louisiana Congressional articles to introduce this bill in my own name." evaded Miller.

"That's all I want to know," retorted Hebert. "I guess I'm in the position of a fullback in a football game who has bucked the ball down the field for 99 yards only to find the quarback calling his own signal to take the ball over for the

And thus was started the new policy of the 80th Congress

Taxing Hollywood

In hasn't been officially announced but the Treasury De-partment is all set to collect several million dollars from Hollywood stars and film executives who cleaned up huge sums by paying capital gains taxes rather than income taxes on picture profits.

sums oy paying capital gains taxes rather than income taxes no necture profits.

What isappened was that when income taxes nomed, the film people hit on the idea of organizing separate corporations of the profits of