FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1947

The Housing Bill Is Up Again

AFTER some weeks of tight maneuverAing, proponents of the Taft-ElienderWagner Housing bill finally managed to
rescue it from an unsympathetic Senate
committee by a single vote obtained by a
hasty telephone call to Senator Burnet
Maybank of South Carolina who happened
to be in Annapolis at the time.

to be in Annapolis at the time.

This is the old Wagner-Ellender-Taft
Bill, the order of its aponsors' names having been reversed by the recent GOP sweep
of Congress. Although its chief aponsor is
none other than solid, conservative, Republican, property-owning Senator Robert A.

Taft, the bill has been subjected to one of
the bilterest attacks in the history of
American lobbying, it is opposed by virtually all real estate and building industry
organizations, and they have fought it,
with marked success, by branding it "socialism".

The idea of thus smearing Senator Taft with the familiar red paintbrush might be funny if it weren't for the fact that the bill bearing his name is the only housing

Congress. The Washington Post says of it.

The Tail-Eighder-Wagner Bill seeks only to get housing started in fields where it is now lagging. The alternative to it, a continuation of the present state of aim-based post of the programs of the construction for the virtual void in the thousing gains that has existed for sevenient year—a void mass that has existed for sevenient year—a void method to seven years are seveniently of the program of the program

capital simply eatinot afford to enter ...

When the W-E-T Bill was successfully buried during the 79th Congress its opponents proclaimed that private industry could and would meet the housing needs of the country once price and priority controls were abolished. The failure to carry trois were abolished. The failure to carry out that promise—new housing starts are actually lagging behind those of a year ago—has not tempered their opposition in the slightest. They are still determined to prevent the Government from undertaking the job they cannot handle.

The result is that in almost two years The result is that in almost two years this nation, which performed miracles of production during the war, has not yet made any real start toward meeting the housing shortage President Truman has quite properly termed "our number one domestic problem". The real estate market is still fantastically inflated, shortages of materials and labor continue to hamper all new home construction.

all new home construction.

This can only be regarded as a record of national failure, no matter how the blame may be apportioned. The Congress now has another chance to do something about it, by passing the housing bill which bears the name of the acknowledged leader of the majority party in Congress. If it fails to pass the W-E-T Bill, or to bring forth an adequate substitute for it, millions of homeless Americans can only conclude that, so far as the Congress is concerned, they are living about as well as they are entitled to.

On Prefabricated Public Opinion

THE American Legion is launching as "big push" to put Universal Military Training over before the 80th Congress adjourns. There is nothing surprising about this, of course, since the Legion has publicly favored peacetime military teraining for the past 20 and 10 little appailed by, the methods the Legion is employing to turn the heat on Congress.

The right of the national organization to convert "every Legionnaire into a missionary" is beyond dispute. Moreover, we would concede that the cause is a worthy one; universal military training is essentiang

would concede that the cause is a worthy one; universal military training is essential to implementation of the Truman Doctrine and those who approve our present course in world affairs must accept the fact that full military perparedness goes with it. This point is made by National Commander Orifithin the current issue of The National Lepionneire. But the national organization does not rest with the effort to persuade the local missionaries that the to persuade the local missionaries that the cause is just. It goes on to set forth in fascinating detail a complete public rela-tions program designed to sell universal military training to the country at large. It not only tells each member what the should think, but what he should say, and when

should think, but what he should say, and when.

"Individual letters, or post cards, written in long hand, are the best media to gain Congressional attention," the missionaries are in formed, and convenient samples, which need only to be copied and signed, are provided. Five newspaper editorials are offered with a reminder that "newspaper editorias are offered with a reminder that "newspaper editors are not averse to hav-

ing offered to them pertinent editorials on 'hot' subjects.." An entire page is devoted to complete "news" stories containing strring direct quotations and equipped with convenient blanks to be filled in with the ring direct quotations and equipped with convenient blanks to be filled in with the names of local post commanders. The manes of local post commanders. The property of the pr

The Unconquerable Heart Of Britain

WINSTON CHURCHILL, who once in-sisted that he did not become Prime Minister in order to preside over the dis-solution of the British Empire, is now a back-bencher who appears to be fully conor the colories who appears to be fully con-vinced that his successor is doing just that. Certainly proud Britain has fallen on evil days—living a sort of hand-to-mouth ex-istence largely on the charity of one of her erstwhile colonies.

ner erstwhlle colonies.

Americans are inclined to view Britain with their customary blend of sympathy and suspicion. It is sad, of course, to secthe mother country brought to her knees by the collapse of her internal economy, after she had so gallantly fought off, the latest attack from without. On the other hand, it is difficult for a nation which it-self botted the empire by force of arms to mourn the passing of the British colonial system.

system. However, we have a feeling that those Americans who are writing Briffith off as a total loss are being a little hasty. We commend to all such the perusal of a ourtime lassie of The London Times, now action deliver special india-paper air-mail continuous action deliver special profusion, weather special profusion, weather permitting. The old thundreer is quite alender these days, but she has made no con-

cession to war, famine, flood, or the rise of the Labor Party. The hot news is still on page three, the court calendar (called "Todays Arrangements" while the Royal Family is out of the country is in its customary place under the mathead. And the unconquerable heart of Britain still beats audibly in the Letters column. Short though newsprint is, The Times still still beats saidly in the Letters column. Short though newsprint is, The Times at the still beats and the said consistency. "May I call upon the side country." "May I call upon the side country." "W. H. Oswald of Holy Trinity Rectory, Norwich, is still permitted to recall in fulsome detail the day, in, February, 1878, when the late Dr. Henry Whitehead, Bishop of Madras, came to dine with the President and Fellows of Trinity College. And there is still room for R. S. R. Filter to remind all readers to forward unpublished reports on birds, now operating. The complex country of the comprehensive account of bird Report, the "most comprehensive account of bird life in so large and important an area ever attempted in this country."

tine "most comprehensive account of bird life in so large and important an area ever attempted in this country." So far.as we are concerned, Messrs, Dun-in-Kemplicz, Oswald, Fitter, and Parrinder leave no room for doubt that there will always be an England.

Another Voice

Hinkey-Dinkey, Parlez Vous

"Parlez vous!" Is there a veteran of the AEF unmoved by that drumbeat? It was a simple tune not played in concert halls; it athered to itself verses not sung in par-loss. But it was a marching song of a

A British dispatch reports the death of Alfred James Walden, 80, in Yeovil. England. And who was Mr. Walden? A ministrel, lost in the anonymity of ministrel lost in the anonymity of ministrel lost in the anonymity of ministrely. His name was not famed; he often used a pen name But, the dispatch stated, he composed 20,000 songs, including—"Mademoissile From Armentieres!"

"Paries vous!" Is there a veteran of the AFF uamoved by that drumbeat? It was a simple fame not played in concert halls; it, gathered to itself verses not sung in par-lose. But & was a marching, song of a world was reprieved for democracy; "Ringe But in the properties of the single state project for the properties of the single state project for democracy; "Ringe But Sunday Sund



'Blow Real Hard, Now'

People's Platform

The Boulevard Again

Editors, The News:

Of you citizens of Charlotte really want this much discussed through-town "boulevard"? Do you tappayers believe you are able to spend the amount of money it will require to complete this project?

Of course, you small-fry tappayers don't count or it seems. But you're the nors who will fort this bill along with the big boys and I haven't heard a single one of you boy. The has been mapped out. (Disregarding some Councilmen and Highway Commissioners).

Disregarding some Councilmen and Hagiway som-missioners.

If the taxparer of this rise should be reliably.

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try to use the 25 cents recently voice, we trackers, to complete the second section of this Charlotte Pice.

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Hamlet's Bootleggers

HAMLET

You say there are bootleggers in South Carolina. Sure, where do you think he is selling his whisk? In dry North Carolina, right here in Hamlet too.

There are bootleggers on the streets every pay day collecting money from the mes before their wives can get the grocers money. I have seen them around he station and on the streets. If you watch closely you will be considered the proceeds them. It is some supernatural that proceeds them.

Please withold my name. My husband would be angry with me. He reads The Platform every day.

—SIGNATURE WITHHELD.

TANCASTED & C

Like An Adder

Editors. THE News.

HAVE hought I would not bother you saim but
HAVE hought I would not bother you saim but
of the google holding up for sole of intoxicants in
any form. I heard a person say after reading what
our minusters had to say in haver of ABG Mores
surely you had them in Charlotte. Also said they
would not hear any minister of google who would
hold up for aske of intoxicants, being solid legal or illegal. But I recommended.

held up for sale of intoxicants being sold legal or lilegal.

But I reckon with that abominable gallon law,
you are soing to keep that in force. I quest they
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you are soing to keep that in force. I quest the
you are called in the watth it? That's no dry law at all.
On! for more people like Miss finer Flow. Mrs.
Sella Stowe Cameron Mortion and all of those
out of Charlotte.

Just to think folks. H B Hvat thinks that folsought to vote wet and drink and have a good
time regardless of how many broken homes, wrecks,
people crippled for life, little ranged hungry children'
Those four Americans who were having such as good
time clubbing Japanese to death and cutting up in
general, too drunk to be responsible, but one is to
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and satingth like an adder.

—SIGNATURE WITHHELD.

-SIGNATURE WITHHELD.

CHARLOTTE

Schools

Editors, THE NEWS

Editors. Tex News:

The members of the Charlotte Trachers Association with to thank you and the members of your staff for your spaper in the school at a election. The public as never before became "school reconscious" because of the persistent effort on your part through your fine editorials. We feel that the irfluence of these editorials was a vital factor in our winning the ejection. We are very grateful to you.

—RACHEL MASON, Secretary.

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications reader who cares to mount it. Communications possible, and on only one side of the paper. Libel and obsently will be deleted—others anything goes. Each letter must be signed, although, in exceptional cases and upon request, we will withhold the writer's name.—Editors, Tux News.

Marquis Childs

Wasteful Economy

DENINO the warm-hearited greetman of Mexico is a serious objective. The hope is to link the two
countries are equal partners in a
warm of Mexico is a serious objective. The hope is to link the two
countries are equal partners in a
warmen of the countries of t

Sources.

It so happens that there is one kind of aid which President Truman can offer to President Aleman without any fear of what Congress may do or say. In fact, it is Congress that seems determined to make this form of aid possible.

grows that seems determined to make this form of aid possible.

ANDERSON'S IDEA

The suggestion originally came from Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson, Shortly before Aleident that an economy-minded congress seemed determined to pare down the reclamation and soil of the control of the congress seemed determined to pare down the reclamation and soil of the congress seemed determined to pare down the reclamation and soil of the congress seemed determined to pare down the reclamation and soil of the congress of th

CEILING ON AID
India, Iran, Iraq, Palestine and

ber of Americans with the proper immedial converted by a control of the most striking examines in the American striking examines is that of Afghanistan, a little-known country which lies across the Knybeghass between find from the Knybeghass between find from a consensation projects. The talked with officials here in Washington and inspected projects in the Westwick of the Afghanistan came to this country of the Afghanistan came to the westwick of the Westwick of the Afghanistan came to the Westwick of th

OPPOSITE DIRECTION

Stewart Alsop

Child In The Dark

UNLESS the crystal balls of a promists and other observers here are more than usually clouded, by next of the control of the c

icy of appeaement toward the Soviet Union.

For observers believe that the issue will be decided until some time next year, when the British economic erisis will control to a head. Meanwhile, however, a first-up of the issue was occasioned by the recent visit here of Henry Agard Wallace, under the auspiess tion. Intellectual organ of the Labor rebels.

tion. 'intellectual organ of the Labor rebels.'
In certain political quarter: Waifactor rebels.'
In certain political quarter: Waifactor rebels.'
In certain political quarter: Waifactor rebels.'
In certain and in others as a
fool and a rogue. But the most
general reaction seems to have been
for the seems of the seems of

Martin are two of the most brilliant and articulate if occasionally haddy misinformed; men in Buster and the state of the

Drew Pearson's: Common-Sense Labor Bill Gains Support Merry-Go-Round

THERE is a growing group of middle-of-the-road Congress-men-both Democrats and Republicans—who would like to see a common-sense labor bill passed by Congress, but not one of the congress of

jurisdictional strikes and secondary boycotts, should and must be corrected. But they don't want to knock out the basic rights of labor. But they don't want to knock out the basic rights of labor. So were the some Congressional leaders are going, however, there will be no labor built at all. For if the tought and the source of the sourc

white House. I ruman appreciated this and the new co-contration of the property of the property of the congressional lead-ers. If they really want a labor bill, it is only a 30-cent taxi fare down Pennglytenia Avenue to the White House where the man who used to sit in the Senate with them is always eager to conter with his former colleagues.

If Senator Taff, Rep. Hartley and some of their anti-labor friends would adopt a more "Vandenbergike" approach, a labor bill fair to both the unions and business could be passed. Otherwise there probably won't be any

State Department Art

MODERNISTIC art acquired by the State Department gave
Republican members of a House Appropriations Subcom-

mittee more hilarity than any hearing in years. In fact, State Department art even drew a caustic letter of criticism from President Truman himself, and the state of the stat

comment.

Benton, a former advertising big-shot who made a fore for the Encyclopedia Britannica, winced. He had never
more of the pictures before. Here is the grilling he got:
Stefan—"What is this picture?".

ton-"I can't tell you.

Benton—'I can't tell you."

The strain—'I am sputting it just about a foot from your execution in the strain of th

Rep. Horan of Washington— are you seeken the tist cristists.

Triashit?

Statist. Do you know what that is?

Station—'It does have a resemblance to many things that are not fit to mention before this committee."

Stefan—'What would you say that was?'

Benton—'It would you say that was?'

Benton—'It would heaftate to pass judgment on us. My guess —'

Stefan—"Would you say that is a seascape or a moun-tainside?"

Benton—"I would hesitate to pass opinion on it. I am afraid the artist wouldn't like it."

Stefan—"What is that?" (holding up another picture). Benton—"I think you might ask Mr. Horan. That books like some of this Western country. He might have some judgement on it."

Sjefan—"What kind of country?"

Benton—"It books like good country to leave behind you. Mr. Chairman."

Stefan—"Do you know when the stefan in the stefan

Mr. Grairman.

Stefan—"Do you know what this is, Mr. Secretary?"
(exhibiting another picture).

Benton—"I think that is much more recognizable. It seems to me to be a city scene that has very little resemblance—"

mblance — see city scene that has very little re-Stefan. "That is a bank-night scene in front of a picture V. You know what a bank night at a picture show is? Benton—Yes." but the hat, Mr. Secretary." (exhibiting.), hoe are supposed to be human being in a discussion on a ct in the United States somewhere. Aren't you hortific-ired!?"

street in the United States somewhere. Aren't you horfills yourself?

Benton—'I would not use the word 'horrified.'

Stafan—Well, you are shocked, aren't you?

Eithon—'No. I wouldn't say I was shocked.'

Stafan—'Vell, what would you say?'

Benton—'I would say 'art.'

Penton, who took the cross-examination good-naturedly finely explained that certain modernistic pictures had been bented as a corn-on to high. Eith A mérica and European extended as a corn-on to high. Eith A mérica and European partient had minde a nitirake in istiling one main select all 70 pictures.

The greatest genius in the world," said Benton, "could not select 79 pictures that would appeal to any four of us all being good pictures."