THE CHARLOTTE NEWS



B. S. GRIFFITH.

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1948

Totalitarian Bill In Disguise

UNDER THE banner of a crusade against "totalitarian dictatorship," the Republican leadership in Congress is setting the stage for a large totalitarian operation by the American Government.

tne stage for a large totalitarian operation by the American Government.

Basis for this undemocratic experiment is the Mundt bill, introduced by Rep. Karl Mundt of South Dakota and a product of the House Un-American Activities Committee laboratory. Calling for a law to be known as the "Subversive Activities Control Act, 1948," the bill is presented as a measure to crush the Communist conspiracy in the United States.

Mundt's bill would accomplish its purposure and punds and the operations of the Communist Conspiracy in the United States.

Mundt's bill would accomplish to proposure and punds and the operations of the Communist Conspiration of the Communist Conspiration of the Communist Conspiration of the Communist Fonts' under the terms of the act would have to register with the Attorney and file annual reports. Penalties provided for acts defined as subversive range up to a fine of \$10,000, Imprisonment for ten years and pleas of citizenship.

There are other punitive provisions in

loss of citizenship.

There are other punitive provisions in this drastle program, which obviously is designed to suppress all organizations from red to slightly pink. The bill's loose and sweeping definitions of subversive activity and "foommunist front" make it a weapon which could be employed almost indiscriminately against trade unions, genuine progressives, peace agitators. Third Party members and others with liberal or leftist views.

Curiously, a complete argument against

this measure is advanced by its own authors when they explain why they preferred this course to outright outlawing of the Communist Party. "Illegalization of the party might drive the Communist Party further underground," reads the Communitee report accompanying the bill. "Illegalization has not proved effective in Canada. We cannot consistently criticize the Communist governments of Europe for suppressing opposition political parties if we resort to the same totalitarian methods here."

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Instead of outlawing the party, the Committee would make outlaws of Communists and fellow-travelers, for that clearly would be the effect of the proposed eat. The real Reds and fellow-travelers would most certainly go underground to excape the restraints and penalties imposed by this measure, creating the very condition which the Committee professes it is seeking to Even if the Mundt bill served its avowed purpose of breaking up the Communist conspiracy, it clearly represents a resort to police state methods. While we can't be certain of its actual effects on the Communist movement, we can be sure that it would deal a heavy blow to the democratic movement in America. There is no Communist threat to America which justifies such an abandomment, of our historic principles and traditions as is contemplated in the Mundt bill. The chief danger demonstrated with the prowth of a fascist trend in Congress.

Russia Too Eager For Peace

SECRETARY MARSHALL is right, of Sourse, in telling the Russians that the United Nations is the proper place for them to start their work for peace, if any. However, it will take us a few minutes to get adjusted to the idea that the big powers can take action outside UN for international conflict but not for a world settleman con

ment.

Apparently the rules under which we are operating permit unilateral, bilateral and nutlitateral action for a cold war but only universal action for a cold war but only universal action for peace. Diplomatic usage, international custom, tradition, the rival national interests, the various political interests and in fact everything except the people simply are not prepared to have understanding and good-will thrust upon them abruptly and unceremonlously.

them abruptly and unceremonlously. In their eagerness for a meeting with the Americans, the Russians forgot their good manners. Our Secretary of State has now rebuked them for their haste and their bad taste in trying to get us into a two-power talk. He has declared that the United States did not propose such a conference, regardless of Soviet Foreign Secretary Molotov's statement to the effect that we had made such a proposal and Russia had accepted.

Moreover, Secretary Marshall makes it quite plain that the United States does not intend to have a Russian-American con-ference for "any general discussion or ne-

gotiation." The first move for improved reliations, if any, must be made by Russia through UN, our Secretary adds.

Mr. Marshall's stand is well-taken on several counts. The UN obviously is the appropriate medium for a general discussion and, Lord knows, there is ample opportunity for the Societ to make a demonstration of the control of the control

reached in direct negotiation behind conference doors.

Nonetheless, it is idle to pretend that the international difference isn't largely an affair between Russia and the United States, and foolish to think that there will be any conciliatory moves in UN without more of a preliminary understanding between the two big powers than exists at present. If such an understanding can be reached by the curious exchanges at arms length which have been under way of late, well and good. If not, then the chance for a settlement may die a-borning and the bright hope of the last week may be replaced by new bitterness and despair in a resurgence of the cold war.

Our Hospitals Deserve A Hand

WHEN YOU hear carping criticism of the hospitals anywhere these days— "outrageous rates" — "service is terrible" —ascribe it to ignorance rather than malice. The hospitals, considering their difficulties, are doing a wonderful job, here and everwhere.

manice. The mospitals, considering it ne it difficulties, are doing a wonderful job, here and everywhere.

The simplest proof may be found in the The simplest proof may be found in the The simplest proof and living longer. The crude death rate in North Carolina per 1,000 population was 10.5 in 1984 and 7.8 in 1984. The about ten years it is going to jump alarmingly, the atstatictians say, but that will be because so many of us will be dying in our seventies and eightless who in other times never would have lived that long. All hospitals are overcrowded. The average citizen today can afford hospital care seven at the inflated rates. Ten years ago he could not. Probably most of this older generation was born in homes. Our children are born in hospitals. Overcrowded and

understaffed hospitals, to be sure, but infant mortality in the state in the period referred to above declined from 77.9 to 35.4 per 1.000 live births.

Many hospitals are trying to care for almost twice as many patients as they were built to accommodate Extra beds in a velocing been placed in all wards and even in half-sure in a waiting list to plaque the total the total as a waiting list to plaque the total as nurses are desperately needed.

Governor Cherry has proclaimed this National Hospital Week, Each of us can do much to help the hospitals in their problems. First, pay bills promptly, Second, be courteous and considerate in visits to 40-bency lists, this may not seem important but is very much as to the coverworked staffs, more of whom than you might suspect have chosen their occupations in considerations of public service.

From The Kansas City Star

You Can't Keep 'Em Down

NEARLY three years after the close of the war the Government payrolls are still booming, and getting the Jobholder total down to a peacetime basis is an endless if not impossible task. There was hope for a while. The military agencies demobilized their big wartime civilian ranks to a point that made the entire showing look non-military agencies were zealously enlarging their totals.

The result is that today the civilian employees of the Government number more than two million, whereas the New Deal at the height of its spending before the war had been able to perform with less than one million. A few years before, at the start of the New Deal, the total was only about 500,000.

Now, according to Senator Byrd's joint committee on the reduction of non-essen-tial expenditures, the figure is moving up

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steadily. It had passed the two-million
mark by more than 30,000 at the close of
March. Both the millitary and the other
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It leaves the public curious if not beruddled that despite all the professions of
economy and all the claims that only
mediate milliprojees were kept on the rolls,
maintenance should be continuously movming up. It isn't merely the pay of the jobholders themselves but the expanding activities of the bureaus that must be taken
into account. Both cost money and the
people who pay it would like to know the
reasons for the twofold expansion—if they
can be found outside the very nature of
bureaucracy theel.

The Voice Of The Turtle



People's Platform

World Union Is Democracy

Editors. The News.

I column without thanking The News for this coportunity of writing for a plan in which we are interested. And so it is with sincerity that we expended to the control of which for a plan in which we are interested. And so it is with sincerity that we expended to the control of the contr

atom bombs in a future war with the intention of creating a "fear compiex in the mass mind" and trend of thought" which is some mystifying way would be of advantage to this minority. By "pusal-laiminous minority" I suppose Mr. Black means to the matter of thought" which is some mystifying way would be of advantage to this minority. By "pusal-laiminous minority" I suppose Mr. Black means II seems to me that oy "falking of atomic warfare," sensible, discerning persons, informed as to the nature of metric and not militariance of what is possible and not middle mind the mind of the matter of what is possible and not different medical matter of what is possible and not middle mind the m

Dental Health Advanced CHARLOTTE

-ZACHARY M. STADT, DMD, MPH.

The People's Pletform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be less than 300 words, typeuritten if possible, and on only one side of the paper. Libel and obscently will be deleted-otheruse anything goes. Each letter must be signed although, in exceptional cases and upon request, we will withhold the writer's name.—Editors, Tus News.

Quote, Unquote

Why have a Supreme Court since John L has already told us whether Taft-Hartley is constitutional or not.—Dallas Morning News.

Stewart Alsop

The Kremlin's Choice

treat, may equit center and the treatment of the treatmen monolithic structure of Soviet European empire. choice there are clearly possibilities. TEMPTING GAMBLE

TEMPTING GAMBLE
Until very recently it seemed likely that the Kremiin was seriously considering the great gamble of signing an Austrian treaty. The gamble must still seem tempting. To the Soviet planners, peering at their maps, Austria must have appearance.

Samuel Grafton

The U.S. & Judea

The NEW YORK.

It will be a dreadful thing if the United States is, not the first of the sword, and the beschming of the era of Thomas Jefferson, of the great power for recognition. We, as democrate, should rejucciy the proclaimed this week-end.

We ought to keep a boy suiting with a recognition statement in the power of the era of Thomas Jefferson, with a recognition statement in the power in the proclaimed this week-end.

It is considered the proclaimed this power in Western Union carried the proclaimed this power in the proclaimed the proclaimed the proclaimed this power in the proclaimed the proclaimed

like free ones, either? What do we like?

TREMENDOUS BREAK
ACUAID, the establishment of a
Actually, the establishment of a
to the stablishment of a
tremendous break for us. What
could be better, from the longrange view, than the establishment of a free nation in that area, one
past traditions of intrigue, and
of estings in national favors?

The establishment of a free
June marks the end of the era of

Drew Pearson's: Clint Anderson: Far-Sighted Statesman

(Ed Note-Clinton Anderson, retiring Secretary of Agriculture, today receives the brass ring from Drew Pearson, good for one free ride on the Washington Merry-Go-Round.)

Persona, good for one free ride on the washington Prevance, good for one free ride on the washington September 1-6 Research.

WASHINGTON Colombia.

Critical September 1-6 Research 1-6 Res

No Picture Farmer

INO FIGURE TATHER

C and variegated personalities in the surbailent Truman
Administration. Once when saked by the March of Time
to pose with a pitchfork, he said. 'Tim an insurance man,
not a farmer'. Actually he has a cattle ranch back in
acquired and a said of the sai

library on the late President is one of the best in the country.

In the Committee of the C

Solving Soap Shortage

Solving Soap Shortage

Not only in regard to grain, but sugar, copra and cotten

was he most farsighted. During the first months after

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but weren't being harvested. So Anderson induced the

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Sugar Salesmanship

O'Es of Anderson's greatest triumphs was his purchase of two Cuban sugar crops at the same time. Sugar then was scarce, and in order to keep prices down, he wanted to buy the 1946 and 1947 Cuban crops. But the Cubans said no. and Agriculture Department emissaries got nowhere with them. Finally Anderson, himself, went to Cuba, called on sident Grau San Martin.