THURSDAY, JULY 29, 1948

The President Shows His Hand

IT HAS BEEN said of the Democratic Administration that, after sixteen years, it is running out of talent Except for Secretary Marshall, who is a national institution, and Secretary Forrestal, who is a Republican, President Truman's Cabinet officers and advisers consist largely of makeshitts. leftovers and assorted Missourians. And great gives gives evidence that the Administration likewise is running out of ideas.

His program to counteract high prices is only more of the same that hann't worked in the past and is hopelessly out-dated at this stage of the game. It is, in some of its phases, a program to maintain high prices. This theme may be developed and elaborat-ed by taking up his points one by one.

d by taxing up his points one by one.

1) An Excess Frofits Tax. This is a device
by which profits of a business are limited
o a certain amount, fixed by a complex
ormula. When profits for any year exceed
the allowed amount, 35 per cent or so of
rrofits beyond that point go to the Government in taxes:

ment in taxes.

Experience with this law during the war years, on when particular was in flower, and the state of the stat

igher prices.

Besides, it is high taxes that are responsible for today's high prices in large measure. Where is the sense in increasing taxes no order to lower prices?

2) Consumer Credit Controls. This is an

In order to lower prices?

2) Consumer Credit Controls. This is another restriction lifted from war times. It is designed to limit the amount and length of credit that may be extended, aimed at reducing purchasing power. Economists are unanimous in agreeing that consumer credit should be kept within bounds. They do not agree that it has reached the point where, in view of prices and earnings and the ministring boundation. It was the straight boundary to the straight population, it owners, in or age discovered that the cost of food is the credit control which limits his purchasing power more than any Federal regulation.

3) Federal Reserve Regulation of Inflationary Bank Credit. This is an objective which may be approached in various ways, some of them technical, but the general intent of the procedure is to limit the proportion of their funds that banks may lend out and the purposes to which such loans may be put. It is highly likely that the nation's private banks are more conservative their nation's concomy than the Government of Hiery Truman is in its sphere. His recent pointed refusal to reaponit Eccles.

their nation's economy than the Govern-ment of Harry Truman is in its sphere. His recent pointed refusal to reappoint Eccles as chairman of the Federal Reserve Board abowed, precisely, his distasts for the very measures he now describes as a curb on in-

lation.

4) Authority to Regulate Speculation on commodity Exchanges. In this proposal Mr. fruman is merely reministing. The thing which is inducing speculation toward higher prices on the commodity exchanges is

the Government itself. Its policy of supporting commotity prices at 90 per cent of partiy levels, which is to say stepping in to buy commodity swhen prices start going down, effectively prevents commodity prices from moving in any other direction except up. Already the Government is "supporting" wheat prices, an activity that directly "supports" bread prices. The margin of spot cotton prices over "support's levels is only a couple of cents a pound, with a large crop coming up. Corn is likely to be at "supports" levels before Pall. The Government is still buying eggs and chickens when the prices of these staple foods start declining. In these circ umstances, it is misleading for Fresdent Trumonity, special commodity, speculation. It is the Government which has erected a floor to keep prices from seeking their of merch of the prices of the start Commodities, and Radioning. The first would affect business, and is conceivably justifiable for defense purposes. The second would affect people, most of whom experience no difficulty in finding what they need, only in paying for it. The President himself concedes that the second authority "might not have to be used at all". He just threw it in to round out his mes-

thority "might not have to be used at all". He just threw it in to round out his mes-

thority "might not have to be used at all". He just threw it in to round out his message.

8) The Strengthening and Enforcement of Rent-Controls, Rent control is about the only regulation concerning the public that has survived the three post-war years. It has no the public that has survived the three post-war years. It houses to go normal and because landords were a diverse, unorganized group, easy marks for politicians—and, too, because the pilight of banants elicits a natural and creditable sympatry. We believe it may be conceded that the continuation of rent concorded that the continuation of rent control is in the public interest and is necessary until the supply of houses catches up, but that rents should gradually be increased to realistic levels, somewhere in line with the new levels of building costs.

7) The Fresident's final and most ferrantly uttered point is the give-away of his intent to maintain high prices rather than to let them come down from natural causes. There are form factor without privately of labor costs of materials and not-civity of labor costs of materials and not-

causes. There are four factors which prin-cipally govern prices—wages, the produc-tivity of labor, costs of materials, and prof-its—plus a fifth factor of supply and de-mand. It is clear that to work any great deterrent on prices, either to hold prices where they are or to bring them down, the four principal factors must all be con-trolled. No such purpose is expressed or im-

trolled. No such purpose is expressed or implied.

In fact, the President explicitly proclaims that further wage increases should be allowed and encouraged, except in those rare cases where, the Government having improsed a price celling, further wage increases would jeopardise the controlled price. Otherwise he urges that wages be paid out of profits, a plain admission that for all his bluster and his fussing with the "world's worst Congress", be either has not the nerve or the desire to mention the measures that would bring prices down or to reverse the policies of the Government that have kept them up.

It is a weak exhibition by a weak President, hardly worth the interruption of Congressional vacations.

Kefauver's Fight Against Crump outlook. Among other accomplishments, he has made himself a leading figure in the movement for reorganization of Congress to provide more efficient and more democratic government. His book, "Twentieth Century Congress", is an authoritative text on this subject. Congressman Kefauver is a vigorous de-Congressman Kefauver is a vigorous detection of the main sources of opposition to TVA—the combination of Crump and Tennesse's incumbent Senators, Tom Stewart and Kenneth McKellar. Stewart is one of Kefauver's opponents in the primary and the other is a Circuit Judge to whom the Memphits bose has shifted his favor. The young challenger is showing the most proposed by the proposed proposed in the transportation of the success in sparting a revoil against Mr. Crump in the boar's Memphis stronghold. The saing boss may be able to beat off this attack as well as the assault of Browning in the Governorship race but the forecasts are for a Kefauver victory. In any event, we now are getting from Tennessee a heartening picture of the forces of progressive democracy at work.

THERE 15 good news from Tennessee in reports that Boss Ed Crump of Mem-phis is slipping. The 72-year-old shup County overlord now faces the most form-idable challenge to his national and state-wide influence he has encountered in tweft-

years.

A two-way attack against the Memphis achine's control comes to a climax in the ig. 5 primary election. The challengers e youthful Rep. Estes Kefauver, running r the Democratic Senatorial nomination,

and youldn't rep, asize Activer, running for the Democratio Senatorial nomination, attempting to make a comeback as Governor after one term ten years ago.

Estes Kefauver celebrated his 45th birthday anniversary on Monday of this week when he interrupted his campaign to go to Washington for the opening of the special session of Congress. Both in Washington and Tennessee, the name of Representative Kefauver is clied as one good answer to the doing to build new Headership.

Through four terms in the House, Representative Kefauver has demonstrated that he is a Southern progressive who combines a deep concern for his own state and region with a broad national and international

From The New York Times

Blue Sky

WHAT IS MORE beautiful than a clear, blue sky? Humid, sultry days may make the question more polgnant, but deep blue skies make fine days in any season. Not akim-milk blue, which is a sky of moisture that neither goes up nor comes down; but the blue of flax flowers fresh at dawn, which has been comed to the come of t

loyed.

Such are the akies of mountain country at its heat, and of the seashore on rare-days, and of almost anywhere after a thunderstorm has cleared the air. It is as though the smothering gause of humidity had been ripped by the lightning and washed away by the rain, and there was

the sky of infinity and eternity, blue and innocent and full of benevolence.

It is the blue of infinity, and there is no illusion about it. Blue light is there, the blue end of the spectrum filtered out of the sun's rays by dust particles that float high in.the upper atmosphere, Above that layer, in the cold stratosphere, the sky is a deep purplish gray. The murk that masks the blue lies below it, earthward, in layers of smoke, or mist, or soud clouds gathering makes, or mist, or soud clouds gathering blue that is he sling to the septime of the strategy of the strategy of the strategy of the strategy of the senses.



People's Platform

Litter And Loafers Downtown

CHARLOTTE

Gittorn, The News:

YOUR paper is to be congratulated for the splendid.

Work being done in giving publicity to the results
are not being done in giving publicity to the results
agnization into the haanitary conditions existing in
spots all over the Queen City. Your Mr. Fesperman
in such a clear and to-the-polar manner. Possibly
since the written stricles (which should be enliphening enough) are accompanied by scrule picliphening enough) are accompanied by scrule picliphening enough are accompanied by actual picfor the conditions as they now are will get a glimpse
for light and be silrred to some sense of duty and
pictures, "just stay put".

In other cities in which I have lived as large or
allowed on the streets as in this city. If perchance
the City Pathens() should decide to take some
action in cleaning up the city, it is hoped they will
streets immediately leading into and away from the
Square, giving special attention to most of the
Square, giving special attention to most of the
City accompanies of the second picture of the conUnited States Post Office, Asade from the dir and
old papers allowed on these sidewalks they could
cashy dispense with some of the undestrable people
billittee.

In view of the recent pictures, and stricles

who load on them. It's a project and a ricles in the word of the recent pictures, and a ricles in the work actually "went and saw." I can writen by one who actually "went and saw." I can ever with just a little of the taxpayers' money being expended for a worthy cause, the City may justify the name "Clean."

—A READER.

(Note: Name withheld at writer's request,—Eds., The News.)

Either Dewey Or Truman

Either Dewey Of Assemble CHARLOTTE
Editors, The News:

SUGOESTION—Come election day,

When I was a boy my father had a plantation on
Myen I was a boy my father had a plantation on
August, he allowed the Neroes to hold a campmeeting at a sequestered place. These meetings
were largely stended and instantion of the complex of the compl

Save The Children

NEW YORK

CHARLOTTE Fall. And some, in the warm months, will be de-stroyed by moths.

stroyed by moths.

Yet for the back of such clothing, hundreds of housands of children will suffer, and many thousands with the control of the such as will do to exposure next Winter.

For the past statem years Save the Children Federation has been provided clothing and other necessities for many needy children in the disadvantaged rural areas of our own country, and in more recent years in Finland, Holland, Prance, Orecce and, Australia.

I hope that by publishing this letter, your readers will be inspired to send this used and outgrown will be inspired to send this used and outgrown to the send to be send to be send to be send to be send to parcel post or express prepaid to: Save the Children Pederation, 30 N. Maple St., Winchester, Ky.

The clothing is needed now because time is re-quired to sort, clean, repair and pack it so that it may get to its destination for the children by tha time the cold weather comes. Adult clothing also is welcome, for if parents are helped, the children are helped too. With thanks, believe me to be,

-JOHN R. VORIS, President, Save The Children Federation

The Passing Of Jim Crow CHARLOTTE

Editors. The News:

I HEARD a peem some years ago, on the Columbia
workshop program, that somehow welded itself
into my memory:

All the world that I have known Is made of glass, and steel, and stone.

And the temple where I kneel Is made of glass, and stone, and steel.

Even these must pass—
The stone . . . the steel . . . the glass . . .

I heard another poem on the radio the other night that likewise welded itself into my memory;

Jim Crow Must go.

In the matter of the glass, the stone, and steel, there is little that the Christian can do about it. In the matter of Jim Crow: It is a blot, on the Christian conscience that politics had to, unaided, accomplish his demise. It is not too late for us to give him a Christian burn.

Marquis Childs

BY CONTRAST

Weak Message?

The weaknesses are pretty ob-vious. It doesn't take a political divining rod to find them. certainly not put it back on as The most lgaring omission in message is the failure to face to record high farm prices supp ed by a subsidy system in a yea record-breaking crops. That is e-record-breaking crops. That is e-speaking, than wages, Just be adjoining in June the Cong passed as makeshift agricultural extending the subsidy-loan sys until 1950 and the bill was alg by the President. divining rod to find them.

In my opinion, Mr. Truman would have been better off if he had taken a somewhat less right-cous approach. You can imagine alonal tone that at one time or other everyone has been wrong on prices and inflation. But now the appirit to try to correct those wrongs. That is perhaps too much to expect of any candidate for high office in an efection year.

are in an election year.

The most glaring weakness in the message was in the long paragraph dealing with the relation of wages be asying. "Don't look now, but I'm going to have to talk about wages and you know how touchy that subject is."

This is an outright loss, sin the potatoes are destroyed or it o animals. The Government I year loaned farmers nearly \$6 000,000 on wheat at an avera loan level of \$1.85 a bushel. Tyear, with the loan level at an avera the state of \$1.85 a bushel.

DeWitt MacKenzie

The President rests his claim or non-inflationary wage increases in the same base that organized abor has used since the end of one war. Many profit margins, he aid in his speech, have been adequate to absorb increases without ne price increases that have followed.

Up To Russia

united Nations commission for conventional armaments (those part from atomic weapons) fit and the second of the se

with Germany and Japan. In short this momentous question, which is the crux of the effort to enforce world peace, is being temporarily shelved. The committee's explanation attrices in as boxing because the blunt fact is that the United Nations can't function as a peace controlling agency until the cold war between Russis and the democracies has been settled.

Drew Pearson's Mithdrawal Would End Reconstruction Merry-Go-Round

WARINGTC
Wesslon of the House Foreign Affairs Committee regar
ing Berlin, he was asked a question about the reconstrution of Germany. Before Clay could reply, Ambassac Robert Murphy, State Department representative in Germany, interrupted to answer for him.

Modern surpriy, class, sever termine.

Unfortunately, Murphy add, it was impossible to get private capital interested in Germany. Though the banks are full of money, everyone in Europe fears that when the will move in, Murphy said. That would mean the confiscation of all private property.

It is a son of the chair reason why the United Private Priv

rement Jermany later. It would undermine all confidence in us."

When a German sets up a business enterprise in the American zone of Germany even today, Murphy told the Congressment, a Russian spent is certain to come mound will be put down in the Soviet black book. And when American troops move out and Russia moves in, he is told that he will be liquidated but the confidence of the USA had built up in Western Germany.

How To Penetrate Iron Curtain

GENERAL public reaction to the idea of
head of the Kremlin by floating weathe
Prance and Germany over Russia with me
to the Russian people has been favorable—
reaction has been reasonably favorable—

Both Government and private meteorological experts agree that the wind currents make the floating of such balloons entirely feasible. In fact, the Japa floated them at the floating of the fl

the American people feel about it.

Balloons To Russia
ARTHUR B. BORDEN, Borden Mills, Inc., New York—
Arthur B. BORDEN, Borden Mills, Inc., New York—
Arthur B. BORDEN, Borden Mills, Inc., New York—
Arthur B. Borden Mills, Inc., 10 Mills, Inc., New York City,
Arthur M. Borden, Inc., 10 Mills, Inc., 10