

THOMAS L. ROBINSON Publisher
J. E. DOWD General Manager
B. S. GRIFFITH Executive Editor
WILLIAM M. REDDIE Editor

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1948

Mecklenburg's Gains Under ABC

CONSUMPTION of alcoholic beverages declined in volume last year in the nation as a whole, according to Federal Government excise records.

The downward trend in guzzling apparently has not manifested itself among the jugheads of Mecklenburg and environs, to judge by the latest operating figures reported by Frank K. Sims Jr., chairman of the Mecklenburg County Alcoholic Beverage Control Board.

At this rate, the total business of the Charlotte stores will exceed the \$10,600,000 mark earlier forecast by the industry.

Although it will take the drinkers in these parts some time to realize there is no profit for them in a bottle, these figures give us a right to feel that ABC is doing its job in Mecklenburg.

Whisky and other alcoholic stimulants take too much out of the family budget. The Mecklenburg drinking public must now be promoting the reflection of it.

This is an important step in education for liquor control. By maintaining a careful record of its operations, and making this information public at frequent intervals, ABC drives home the fact that the liquor is not as necessary a price in dollars and cents for the dubious pleasure of the bottle.

There also is a gain for the community's morals and peace in the news that the bootlegger has now been virtually banished from a city and county where he once flourished in evil glee.

In congratulating themselves again on the adoption of this efficient system of liquor control, Mecklenburgers should extend particular thanks to Henry Severs and his ABC police for their efficient enforcement work, and Chairman Sims for his effective and economical administration.

Revolt Of The 'Neutrals'

WE ARE struck by the statement of Dewitt MacKenzie, Associated Press foreign affairs analyst, that there "isn't a ghost of a chance for Scandinavia to remain neutral in the present Communist bloc and the democracies."

"That is true not only in Scandinavia but every other country in Europe," he adds.

Despite Mr. MacKenzie and others who share his point of view, we now are witnessing an important neutrality movement.

On the other side, Soviet Russia recently has encountered increasing resistance from her satellites behind the Iron Curtain.

In a thoughtful article in the August Ladies' Home Journal, Dorothy Thompson comments on the fact that women have reached their greatest heights not in the field of arts and letters but of statecraft.

Jane Doe For President

A committee in 1881 was compiled by the friends to recommend that Anna Carroll—devisee of the strategy which won Grant in the Tennessee, "unrecognized" and a recent fictionalized biography—should receive the emoluments paid to major generals of the United States as a partial recompense.

It may be that women's capabilities in the field of statecraft still receive only "partial recognition." But if Miss Thompson is right in believing that their very "common sense, human judgment, prudence and common sense of the race" have weighed against that single-minded, reckless devotion to the creative imagination which produces great art, then we expect to see those qualities take women a more and more into the public sphere—and why not into the White House?

Balkan region and much of Eastern Europe are restless and rebellious under the direction of the Russian militarists.

This is a sign of anti-war sentiment on both sides of the Iron Curtain undoubtedly has been stimulated by the increasing tension between the United States and Russia. It has also profoundly disturbed the strategists in Moscow and Washington.

Perhaps there is no place in this world for a neutral and the Moscow talks will produce no peace. However, at the moment the neutrality movement among the war-weary peoples appears to have created a situation which will bring a lull in the "cold war," if not an end to the big power struggle.

On the other side, Soviet Russia recently has encountered increasing resistance from her satellites behind the Iron Curtain.

Down Payment Asked



RECORD MEAT PRICES



RECORD GRAIN CROPS FORECAST

WEEKLY MARKET

AUTHORITATIVE reports from the conversations now going on in Moscow clearly indicate that the Western viewpoint is the dominant pattern in dealing with their Western antagonists, have now moved.

Phase I, the conversation between the Soviet dictator Stalin and the three Western envoys, was that a host which might have been expected, from the tough negotiations.

Smith Roberts and Chateignau of the United States, Frank Roberts of Great Britain, and Yves Chateignau of France, were ushered into the Kremlin.

Molotov took over Phase 2—the tough phase—which started with the meeting of the UN in London.

ated its tone—"Molotov, three hours, no Stalin, no comment." If it is to follow the attitude of the dictator, Molotov was even rather unimpressive.

The Westerners began by reciting, as a basis for discussion, their views on the military situation presented in the previous meeting by Stalin.

Francis Wickens inevitably concerned Western Germany and the plans agreed upon at the London three-power conference for a Western German Government.

People's Platform

Mountain Music In Opera

ONE paragraph in a News editorial Aug. 6 included this observation: "A few American musicians—men like Aaron Copeland and Lamar Stringfield—have set many of the old folk ballads and jig into permanent form in suites and concert pieces."

All right. But why not include with Mr. Stringfield and Mr. Copeland the name of Kurt Weill, a 48-year-old German composer who, would seem, could or would not be over-enthusiastic about the folk music of a foreign country, but any who listened to the radio premiere of his new opera, "Down in the Valley," must have sensed that he has made a great contribution toward a new and heretofore unexplored medium of musical expression.

"Valley" story is not difficult to follow. Brack Weill, who loves Jennie Parsons, is in Birmingham jail awaiting execution for the killing of unscrupulous Thomas Bouche. Weill waits in vain for one letter from his Jennie. With time slipping out, he escapes for a final visit with his love.

"Down in the Valley" is a new and original musical expression. It is a story of a young man who is in Birmingham jail awaiting execution for the killing of unscrupulous Thomas Bouche. Weill waits in vain for one letter from his Jennie.

"Down in the Valley" is a new and original musical expression. It is a story of a young man who is in Birmingham jail awaiting execution for the killing of unscrupulous Thomas Bouche.

music to various towns and cities throughout the South. Has the talent and know-how to fully explore the north which Mr. Weill has just opened.

WINK LOCKLAIR, 518 Locke Ave.

Counting Up The Sales Tax

I WISH to congratulate J. C. Carlin on the article he wrote in your "People's Platform" on your valuable paper of Aug. 5. And speaking of sales tax, I went into a store the other day, went to a table and bought a 10-cent article and the girl said, 25 cents, went to another table and bought a 15-cent article and she said 16 cents, and to another table and bought a 10-cent article and paid 11 cents, making my total purchase 46 cents, and the sales tax was 5 cents.

Did you hear about the fellow driving from Murphy to Manteo and not seeing a highway officer? They had evidently taken the country roads.

Calling All Democrats GAINFAY

AM I supposed to be with this lot of State's Rights Democrats. Abe Lincoln killed states' rights, the Constitution and the Supreme Court when he wrote the Emancipation Proclamation 83 years ago.

Quote, Unquote LITTLEJOHN

The new Ford which looks, from behind, like a Nash, is the best thing I have seen since the Ford Model A. Arazier, looks on the price tag like a Peckard.

After being at bat for 16 years, the Democrats probably can't remember what positions they play.

Your mentality don't weaken with age. It only seems that way because you no longer know all the answers.—Richmond News Leader.

From The Washington Post

The Precursors

NOT THAT it really matters much to anybody except encyclopediaists and biographers, but the discovery of the electron, according to Dr. Robert A. Millikan, who knows as much about such things as anybody, was Benjamin Franklin.

This, of course, leads to the question why certain scientific ideas have more momentous consequences in one age than in another. A good many years ago Mrs. Ferrars-Londre wrote a book in which she sought to prove that all the basic principles of modern science at least had been well known to the ancients, and that if the ancients had really tried to do so, they might have produced a mechanical civilization like that of the twentieth century.

THE real-estate lobby worked backstage with its pet Congressman. The lobby even almost every minute of the week for Senators in order to kill the public housing bill.

What happened was that the Republican National Committee had a special session to discuss the Republican answer to the Communist proposal. It described free enterprise as a system that provided the best way of life for the people.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THE real-estate lobby worked backstage with its pet Congressman. The lobby even almost every minute of the week for Senators in order to kill the public housing bill.

What happened was that the Republican National Committee had a special session to discuss the Republican answer to the Communist proposal. It described free enterprise as a system that provided the best way of life for the people.

Truman Moves Fast A GROUP of veterans got such prompt action from President Truman the other day that they didn't have time to finish asking him what they wanted.

Democrats Offer Cup of Dixie Rebels

As spokesman Jack Carter, representing the Veterans of Foreign Wars, began to explain their mission, the President interrupted.

AMVET Representative Bob McLaughlin commented that his organization had been studying the issue. He said that most cases could be traced back to slum conditions which the public housing bill would have corrected.

Washing Back Dixiecrats HAWKING Democratic Chairman Senator Howard McMillen tried to coax Southern Senators back to speaking terms—really, if not politically—by invoking the entire Democratic flock to a "harmony party."

showed up anyway, and led the Democrats in singing Dixie.

Florida's senior Senator Claude Pepper, who opposed President Truman's Democratic National Convention, took the gathering off to a pool table and proceeded to lose.

NOTE: The party wound up by serenading McGrath with "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling," singing "My Old Kentucky Home" and "The Deep in the Heart of Texas" for Senator Tom Connally.

Old Blue Nose A Hired hand was brought back to Texas to face a murder charge—46 years after he had disappeared.