THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1951

BALANCING THE STATE'S BUDGET

A LTHOUGH Governor Scott and the Advisory Budget Commission are \$38 million apart in their spending recommendations for the next blennium, it should not be too hard to close the gap.

The Governor wants \$38 million more than the Budget Commission recommended for these purposes (1) \$17 million to establish the \$22,00-\$3,100 teacher salary and the second permanent basis; (2) \$48,19,942 each course, the State's baserials building. blish the state's hospital building continue the State's hospital building to continue the State's hospital building program; 33 s10 million as a deficiency appropriation to complete the \$124 million permanent improvements program authorized by the 1947 and 1949 Legislatures; (4) \$1945-85 to boost the pay of State employees; (3) \$200,000 for civil defense; (6) \$1489.00 for four new permanent improvement projects; and (7) an unspecfited sum for expanding the Revenue Department's field force of tax collectors.

As this newspaper sees it, the first step for the House and Senate Appropriation Committees is an examination, line by line. Committees is an examination, line by line, of the expenditures recommended for all State functions by the Advisory Budget Commission. The recommendations should be measured by the exacting standards of the current international situation. We are entering an era when individuals will have to deny themselves many of their hormal expenditures. It is not too much to ask the State Government to do the same.

THE next step is to examine the Budget Commission's prediction of General Fund revenue. It appears to be on the conservative side, as this table shows: ral Fund Net Collection

iscal Ye		t Collection
1939-40		40,698,042
1940-41	***************************************	47,280,139
1941-42	**********	57,649,331
1942-43		70,445,137
1943-44	***************************************	76,622,101
1944-45		80,697,290
1945-46		90,453,171
1946-47		119,996,404
1947-48		129,568,152
1948-49		140,843,645
1949-50		132.837.931
1950-51	(estimated)	145,392,864
1951-52		146,001,514
1952-53	(estimated)	146,752,014

It is significant that the only decrease in general fund revenue from 1939-40 through 1950-51 was a result of the national economic readjustment in the calen-dar year of 1949. Other than that, the general fund revenue, highly sensitive to periods of full employment and pros-

to periods of full employment and pros-perity, aboved substantial gains each year, before the war, through the war, and after the war.

Hence, one can anticipate that the national delense program will spur pros-perity for at least two or three more years, whether war comes or not. The News believes that the Commission's estimates for 1951-32 and 1952-33 are overly conser-vative, and that the General Assembly

would be fully justified in revising them upward.

A RIGID curtailing of non-essential State expenditures plus an upward revision of revenue estimates will partially close the \$38 million gap between Gover-

revision to 38 relates an activate of the control o million deficiency appropriation from current operating revenue to complete this current operating revenue to complete this capital investment program, as Governor Scott suggested, it would be wiser to review the \$44 million in projects still out-standing and try to eliminate all those that are not utterly essential. (Though it may be too late to do anything about it, the \$1.247.00 appropriation for a collesum at the State Pair Grounds is a case in point.)

There remains the \$17 million to estab-lish present teacher salaries on a per-manent basis. The News considers this a "must". The appropriating of contingency funds is a poor fiscal practice. It was used by the 1949 General Assembly to dodge the teacher slary issue, and to pacify the teachers by holding out to them the vague of the stable of the property of the stable of the teachers by holding out to them the vague of a surplus course of the property of the First fully justified at that time, and should have been put on a regular basis then. It is justified even more today, since inflation has cut deeply into teacher earn-ings. This Legislature cannot, in good conscience, dodge the issue longer. There remains the \$17 million to estab-

AFTER these steps have been taken, and after Governor Scott's other smaller requests have been scrutinized, there may remain a gap of several million dollars. If so, revision of the sales tax to eliminate some, if not all, of the exemptions will then be in order.

then be in order.

If the Legislature approaches the problem in some such orderly and honest
manner, it should be possible to reconclude the problem of the such as the su

THE LEGISL'ATURE'S OBLIGATION

TT WILL BE interesting to see what the 1951 General Assembly does about the \$1,282,951 contract for the State Fair col-

The State Legislature has wide investi-gative powers if it chooses to exercise them. It can appoint a special committee and clothe that committee with full au-thority to call in witnesses and determine

the facts.

The resolution introduced in the House by Rep. Edwin Pou of Wake County, and in the Senate by Pou Balley of Wake and Daniel L. Bell of Chatham, suggests that five Representatives and three Senators be named to investigate the hurry-up awarding of the colliseum contract last week.

There is some doubt that the Gen-There is some doubt that the General Assembly can do anything to invalidate a legally-awarded contract. But it can certainly find out why the Budget Bureau and the State Board of Agriculture were in such a rush to award the contract after they discovered that appropriated funds were not sufficient to complete the build-fire.

The 1949 General Assembly provided \$1,257,000 for the project. Bids ran to \$1.658,294. By cutting out heating, reduc-ing lighting, and eliminating plastering,

IGATION

the bids were brought down to \$1262,951. This figure was still higher than the appropriation, so the Agriculture Board approved the transfer of \$100,000 from another State Pair product, State and County Buildings.

Moreover, contracts were signed this week for a youth housing project at the fairgrounds, costing \$40,550. Once again a contract for basic construction was awarded, without plumbing and heating. These contracts will be awarded by the Budget Bureau later. The domintories will provide housing for some 100 to 120.4-H. Club members, briture Farmers of America, and other youth groups.

Both projects may have been deemed desirable in 1949, but they are certainly not essential in 1951. Better that these funds should have been diverted to more essential projects of the state's permanent improvement program, where a defficiency improvement program.

essential projects of the state's permanent improvement program, where a deficiency of \$10 million, caused by rising prices, is already looming.

The General Assembly will be guilty of gross neglect of its duty unless it digs beneath the surface of this strange transaction, and informs the people of North Carolina of the unseen forces that prompted the Budget Bureau and the Board of Agriculture to violate all the rules of the game.

From The Greensboro Daily News

COULD BE SHOT IN ARM

THE business of legislating in North Carolina has been given a shot in the arm, and that by a hand ordinarily never suspected of toting a needle. Reduction of the number of Senate committees by Legislating the summer of Senate committees by Legislating the summer of Senate committees by Legislating the summer of Senate committees by Legislating of the summer of the summer of the summer of the summer of the senate of the House at all times—but it sets fine example to the speaker of the House. Not that co much is to be expected at this point, but it does go to show there is use to be made at the State Capitol of statesmen of one talent.

of one talent.
For the appointment of committees is
the one contribution a lieutenant governor
inskes to a session of the General Assembly, And this is usually rather cut and
fried, with the important chairmanships
allocated often two years in advance.
Which makes Lieutenant Governor Tay-

lor's approach to the matter all the more

It is our notion, and has been for sometime, that what government in these parts and elsewhere needs is not so much reor-ganization as to detail but some reconse-cration as to purpose by its component

A Springfield girl ran her automobile A Springfield girl ran her automobile into a moving train and unhurt, explained that she heard a whistle but thought it was some wolf and her mother had warned her to pay no attention to whistles.—Joplin (Mo.) Globe.

Pome In Which is Revealed One Of The Contributory Causes Of The Nervous Con-dition Of Authors:

They live in terror
Of the typographical error.

Affanta (Ga.) Journal.

Truman Rights Argument Sure To Delay Defenses

By MARQUIS CHILDS

PRESIDENT TRUMAN has chosen in his State of the Union message to ignore the Re-uniform challenge to the President challenge, as the right of the President to set the right of the President to set at right of the President to read additional American troops to unope without the consent of Contract.

The message is based on the President of Contract.

The message is based on the assumption that the commitments have long after the property of th

Congress of an includes suresy, the in station-wide broadcast.

In the wake of that broadcast, means should be found to have a test vote in the Senate on the right search of the President to pertilepte in the extent of sending fur it her attent of sending fur it has been would be a fair number of Republicans. There can be little doubt should the outcome. Sen. That suggested in his telescone before the sending that is true. Ofen. Essenhower has not make the move that the sending that is true. Ofen. Essenhower had not been send intention as to make it imposed to bould the defenses of Western Europe.

CONTENT ALMOST CERTAIN

But suppose who knows Essenhowshale be will report. He is the rough-

Goers And Stayers Provide Commentary On War Outlook

By ROBERT C
NEW YORK
THERE ARE some allied topics
here, which I would like to lump
loosely, under a general heading,
one toughes that bulky artist, Paul
loving paires who falsely claims
spotementably for his race.
Another skips lightly over a nice
ause celeber. Alfred Bergdoll, and
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away in the last war, since by his
of his own country and a passionate espouser of those people who
are now declared enemies. Mr.
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Drew Pearson's

Merry-Go-Round

British News Dispatches

BRITISH newamen, for instance, at one time referred to 'Mao's ghost army' and said that British forces had not seen the enemy for a week. This was during retreat No. 1 of the 8th Army when U.N. forces raced 120 miles southward.

counts.

During one point in the retreat of the 5th Army shortly before Christmas, MacArthur actually seen in slied commander, the late Lieut, Cen. Walton Walker, a blistering mander the late Lieut, Cen. Walton Walker, a blistering be "aggressive" about it. MacArthur even used the command of direct in his message to Walker; also ordered him to

es southward. General MacArthur's own confidential dispatches to the tagon give credence to some of these British news ac-

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK
e allied topics
of the state of the state

'Gave Proof Through The Night

Collected By Bill Sharpe

TURPENTINE DRIPPINGS

Worst Enemy

Worst Enemy
(Rocky Mount Telegram)
All in all, the survey would show that the automobile has become the worst enemy of our wildlife, not to mention that of the domestic variety. Chalman, the rabbit county, is literally stream with bundle to the state of the state o

(Waynesville Mountaineer)

(Wayneville Mountaineer)
One of the most useless things man (or a woman) ever made was guest towels. Every one knows
they are hung on the towel rick for looks and not
for use. Now some farsighted sout has gone all the
way and designed paper guest towels that can be
used. Bless "his" heart, we almost know it must
have been a man.

Stet

(Sanferd Herald)

The big discussion of whether Hawking Arenus should be wittened or a by-pass constructed and the should be wittened or a by-pass constructed and the should be wittened or a by-pass constructed and the should be wittened to be the should be should b

Many Things

certain not to have the state of the old ditty:
"Many things may discourage proposal;
Sometimes even a shiny nose il."

And He Was Warm

(Sanford Herald)

Mike Harper reported to Sanford Jaycees the
other day that he's in the Army again and only has
about two weeks before he must report for dusy,
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about two weeks before he must report for dusy,
the sanford had been sanford he was about the
about two weeks before he must report for dusy,
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(Jim Griffith, Morganton News-Herald)

Construction of the new State Bank of Burke building is scheduled to get under way immediately,

Goose Hunters

Goose Hunters

(Renkers Courier-Times)

This past week-end saw the old men go hunting. Why some men try to remain young when they are really aged is more than I cals me. These are the really aged is more than I cals me. These are the Fort the sake of the records here is who went, Maynard Clayton, Gene Thompson, Dr. John Fitzgerald, Forther of Pall Thomas of this city, Phil Thomas of this city, Phil Thomas and Sam Byrd Winstead.

These Gold Men are going out to a blind easily. These Gold Men are going out to a blind easily and the company of the control of

Just Grown Up

Just Gleina — (Cebulen Record)
My daughter remarked last week that she imagines taking on extra help for the holiday season mentioned having ordered for Tanksguring a tempound turker. The on that was delivered weeken more than twelve bounds. When she sated about it as the natted toward of his or tempound turkery weighted twelve pounds that year.

Quarter
(Western Carolina Tribune)

A cheese advertisement says: "To be truly good three things must age—wines, violins and cheese." Throw in the '51 model of high school and college graduates and make it a good quartet.

Maybe It's 'The Thing'

Maybe It's 'Ine Lhing' (sheetile Chieva)

For since one while attempting to add 1 and 1 have been shown while attempting to add 1 and 1 have been shown with the sheet of the

Retreat In Korea Planned Withdrawal

WASHINGTON.

THE UN. retreat in Korea now has gone through two distinct and separate stages.

Retreat No. 1 — Which bears when we were caught under the Manusch end to the Manusch end t Attacks Exaggerated
ANOTHER significant point brought out in MascAtthur's reports to Washington is that, during the evacuation of the Hungnam beachbead, never were the U.N. forces stacked by any Chinnes force stronger than a company. The company of the force stacked by any Chinnes force stronger than a company which fought desperately to hold the beachbead, and which fought desperately to hold the beachbead, However, MascAthur's own reports to Washington do not bear this contract that the company of the company 38th parallel, Anotage phases of uniteleph-quile statle by the 10th Corps to reach the sea at IReltreat No. 2 — Which began at around the 38th parallel last week, has been a carefully planned withdrawal, with supplies loaded up and noted to give the impression that U.N. forces were retreasting in the face of heavy odds, but this has not really been the case. Our withdrawal is following a calculated plan to execute the present of the control of the cont

Friction With South Koreans

If U.N. forces had been advancing in a compact front, it is instead of fammed out, the result might have been difficult on the result might have been difficult on the result of the result of the fammed of the fammed of the sith Army with South Koësan units on its finak. Friction developed between the South Koesans and the

Americans, including fist lights, and the Americans were finally ordered to keep away from the South Korena. The state of the state of the state of the state of the 2nd Division odd not know the South Korenas had dropped back, leaving the Americans' flank exposed. This gave the Chinese a chance to infiltrate, and the 2nd Division panicked

Chilese a charce to infilirate, and the find Division panicade and ran. hardines unbooke their field artillity and made and ran. Latinities unbooke their field artillity and made and ran. The chartest and the results are sufficient to the results and the results are resulted to over 50 per cent and caused MacArthur to cable Washington that the Pand Division was 'until for printer duty.' namely, that the 2nd Division was not entry occurated by beause of had morale. On the results of the results are results and the castillates but until for further combat duty beause of had morale. On MacArthur's own reports, place the Chinese strength, based on MacArthur's own reports, place the Chinese samp which faced the U. N. Army at about 96,000 men. The 8th Arthur at that time numbered shoots 100,000 cents at rooms. This was stitu parallel.

Washington Pipeline

Washington Pipeline
TUES Associated Press and tutuled Press are quietly checkit

I whether their war correspondents are padding expensecounts. The two wire services have asked the Arn
for a confidential report on what it costs for a war or
expenses that the AP and UP men have been turning in ...
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