SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1953

A SUGGESTION FOR THE CITY COUNCIL

A SUGGESTION FOR THE

IF THE NEW City Administration adheres
to the customary procedure, ope of the
first items of business will be the selection
of public improvement projects to be carried out in the next two years. City Councilmen seem to feel that they can make
their mark for posterity in this way, though,
it rutth, we doubt that one out of 100 citliens can tell you who was on the Council
when, say, Memorial Stadium was built,
or Memorial Hospital constructed, or the
Independence Boulevard decided upon.
And if the members of the new Council
follow the established pattern, they will do
a little trading here and there—Togrofilm;
it's often called—in order to get evel. Two
years ago, the "deals" on E. 26th St. and
W. Sh. St. stried quite a flurry of excitement of the project of the council of the

w. St. Strred quite a littry of excitement.

We're not so naive as to believe that politics, or government, can be kept completely free of trades, but we do submit that there's a better way to plan and carry out public improvement projects. That's by adopting what is called a cepital expenditures budget, and carrying it forward from year to year. The littest issue of Popular Government has an article by Philip P. Green Jr., an essistant director of the Institute of Government. It explains, in great detail, just how a capital expenditures budget is set up and how it works. Green describes it this way:

"In brief, it is a planned program for the furnishing of public improvements. It is a priority list, prepared against a back-ground of the city's general financial sit-uation, of projects which are to be car-ried out in furtherance of the city's de-velopment. It is not a means of encouraging a city to spend more on grandiose projects

than it can afford. Rather it is a means of guiding the city's normal improvement pro-gram along desirable channels and insuring that it is carried out in an orderly fashion."

Many American cities, including several in North Carolina, have already adopted the capital expenditures budget as standard procedure. It is composed of three main sections:

tions:

A detailed list of projects to be undertaken during the coming year, which becomes a part of the regular budget.

Another program, not so detailed but with priorities assigned, to be undertaken during the following five years. The two sections together are frequently described as a "susyear sapital improvement pro-

as a "uscyear capital improvement pro-gram".

3 A third list of projects, without prior-ity, to be started at some time after the sixyear period.

Sections 2 and 3 are flexible. They may be changed from time to time as the city a condition changes. In practice, they are reviewed at the end of each year. Some may be dropped. Some may be moved up the scale. New ones may be added. But at all times to the second of the community is community; needs before the members of the Council and the taxpayers.

The arguments in favor of the capital expenditures budget, as cited by Mr. Green, are too varied-and too numerous to be listed here. They convinced us that the system which has worked so well elsewhere would work well here. And we suggest to the members of the new Council that they ask Mr. Green to come to Charlotte and explain what the system would do for the City of Charlotte.

TIME FOR A CHANGE

THE EMPHASIS in Washington these Adys is upon reorganization, fresh looks, new teams. Almost every Cabinet Department has been revamped already, or has in the works a major overhaul. Most all, that is, except the Proit Office Department.

We do not propose to recount here the ways in which political inflence unduly affects postmasterships, a characteristic of the postal system that Republicans excented before they assumed power. have disregarded since. Sufficient to say, we expect the Republicans to put forward promptly-corrective measures in line with those recommended by their former leader, Herbert Hoover, and his Commission on Reorganization of the Executive Branch.

But another aspect of the postal system

But another aspect of the postal system wants attention, too. The Post Office continues to be a bastion of bureaucracy and red tape. This characteristic of the department was well-ocumented by the Hoover Commission. Its opinion is fortified by a report issued a few days ago by the Government Accounting Office, which found

"A purchase of two baffle plates for \$2.97 by the New York Post Office was supported by nine documents bearing 24 bearing to the power of the power

Remove appointments of postmasters from

Decentralize the postal service, so Washington doesn't have to make all the minor

ecisions.
Update budgeting and accounting proce-

Update understanding dures.

Write into law a requirement that a Post-master-General be a non-political appointee.

WHERE WILL WE PUT THE STARS?

OUR Mr. Fesperman's story in THE NEWS about the removal of the flag from the

O'UR Mr Pesperman's story in Tux News about the removal of the flag from the old Chamber of Commerce offices on West Fourth set us to pondering about 01d Glory There is a flag problem coming up, you know, and while it isn't too important it's not too some to start thinking about it. The problem. Where in the flag are they going to put the stars of Hawaii and Alaska when they achieve statehood?

Traditionally, each state parks a star of the star o

legal like, and retrusctive to 1803.
So actually, there should be only 47 stars on the flag now. But how in the world would you put 47 stars into a geometrially pleasing arrangement? Our private suspicion is that Ohos illegaliny has been long known but that, after juggling around 47.

as field of blue. Congressmen or somehody decided what the heek let's keep the 48 stars up there, because their six-one-way-eight the other arrangement works out to simply.

If Hawaii (and Ohio) are finally admitted, there will be 49 states, and a seven-by-seven arrangement will work out nicely. But how about Aliaski 'As soon as the flagmakers have made a killing selling 49-star flags, then the Democrats will come back into power and bring Alaska into the union Fitty stars won't look too good, in a ten by five arrangement, but that may be the most satisfactory solution.

First years went ious too good. In a ten by five arrangement, but that may be the most satisfactory solution. Duerto Ruo, If anyone thinks its chances of eventual statehood are dim let him remember that Senor Romany, that little delegate who convuised the Republican convention in Chicago, is not only a wheel in his native Puerto Rice, but an ardent champion of statehood. After an appearance or two on mainland TV again he might have Congressmen galore innisting on Puerto Ricen statehood. What would we have then—31 stars. a designer's inginitarie.

Maybe we ought to hurry Ohio into the union, breather a such of reilef, and limit the number of stars to 48, no matter how many new states come in Or maybe someone is better at flagdesigning than we are.

From The Christian Science Monitor

NAVY BEANS

WE READ with interest of the ex-sailor who wrote in to the Navy asking for galley recipes—because he misses the old Navy chow.

say chow.

This will confirm those Army men who emplain bitterly that it's the men on the sea had been been as the sea of the sea of

hard tack, but it's a harder task to please the young fry when has once had a taste of the sea.

There are four kinds of husbands. The one who runs the vacuum cleaner for his wife. The one who makes himself scarce while she runs it. The one who sits and reads while she runs it. And the one who makes her turn it off because he's listening to the ball game on the radio.—Kingsport (Tenn.)

be and a bottle of chill sauce.

"Home is the sailor, home from the sea."

"Home is the sailor, home from the sea."

ton tikek you can py the fine at your bank, the role and the property supposedly is that it would hart so and might have added "—home from chow the main." The old sail may stick to his.



Reds Develop Interceptor

U.S. Bomber Force Weak

BY JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON and STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON and STREETH OF SCAC is now composed of obsolescent B-36s and obsolete B-29s in the medium range carries have now agreed that the Soviets are producing a good all-weather jet fighter, fully equipped with tracking radar.

This is a rather belated recognition of a fact which the Air Force, particularly, has been relictant to face. British intelligence sources been not work at night or in bad weather. But the state of t

equipped with tracking radar.

This is a rather belated recognition of a fact, which the Air Force, particularly, has been reluctant to face. British Intelligence sources began to report the existence of a Soviet all-weather jet to the progress of the Soviet electronics industry, have ground the same direction. Other indices, such as the enormous expansion of Soviet alumnion of south and the same direction. Other indices, such as the enormous expansion of Soviet alumnion of south and several properties of the same direction. The same direction of the same direction. The same direction is a source of the same direction of the same direction. The same direction of the same direction of the same direction of the same direction.

would make room for new types.

The role of the Soviet all-weather jet will be to replace the MIG-15, a day tighter without tracking rader, as the main weapon of the Soviet aur defense system. The Kremin's home defense force are currently composed for rong 3500 st. 5000 MIG. in this country). The process for replacement will take at least two years, probably three years, and perhaps four years. As the all-weather jets are phased into the home defense air force, the MIG-15 will no doubt be phased out to the selection of the process of the process of the process of the process of the mid-16 process of the selection of the selection of the process of the proces

Far-Reaching Effect

THE effect of this replacement will be far-reach-Ting indeed. Even today, the Soviet air warning net is dense and elaborate (as compared with our own rickety and penetrable "radar fence"). The weakness is the MiG-15s. (or the MiG, being a posed to night and had weather attacks. The weak-ness will be transformed into a source of strength, when the MiG-15s are replaced by the new all-most the middle of the middle of the season of the season of the season of the weather jets. And this new situation must be a venetred and prepared for by 1955-36, or 1856-37 at the latest.

the latest.

No development could have more bearing on American military planning, which squarely hinges upon the Strategic Air Command. SAG is the "retal-isatory striking force" that is counted upon to determine the striking force that is counted upon to determine the striking force that is counted upon to determine the striking force. The state is considered to the striking force that is counted upon the striking that the striking the striking that the str

step with the improvement of Soviet air defenses. As of today, SAC comprises 40 air groups instead of the 57 groups set as the SAC minimum in the 148 group Air Force program. Of these of groups, moreover, only three groups low have modern jet bombers—medium range 8-47s. Our long-range jet bomber, the B-52, is still far from the stage of operational usefulness. Thus Bratish is that the price of kissing is going up—
St. Losis Post-Dispatch.

about to become totally obsolete.

Meanwhile, replacement rates of B-50s and B-20s with usable B-47s and B-20s were anything to statisfactory, even under the Truman reporars. In the medium range category, the report of the rep

LeMay Demands Action

LeMay Demands Action
DOR these reasons, our brilliant Strategic Air
Commander, Gen. Curtis LeMay, began to demand an emergency effort to strengthen SAC more
than a year ago. LeMay then asked for no less
than 14 new groups of B-Sa, at an additional
to the strategic leman of the strategic leman
pensive B-Sac instead of B-d7s because of the
demendence of the medium range B-d7s on overreas air
basis. He argued that we could no longer build
all our hopes on air bases too near the creating
too just the strategic leman of the strategic leman
too just the strategic leman of the strategic leman
too just the strategic leman of the strategic leman
LeMay's recursed any estended But his area.

LeMay's request was rejected. But his argument gained strength with each passing month, there are not below the same and the same and the same are t

piecement of B-36s with B-52s.

Today, however, cutabes, and slowdown are the rule for strategic air as for our whole defense program. The 57 group goal for SAC miss in evitably go by the board, along with the 143 group ar porgram. B-47 production facilities are likely to be reduced. A small register of the production facilities are likely to be reduced. The short control of the state of the

Quote, Unquote

Why is it we speak of the "old-fashioned virtues" but not the "old-fashioned vices"?—Montgomery Advertiser.

Slashes In Defense Spending Slated To Be Partisan Issue

By MARQUIS CHILDS

Slated To Be Partisan Issue

By MARQUIS CHILDS

Now PORCEPUL will be the service of the control of the provided by the half does men who have the power to determine the levels of speding that the eards are held by the half does men who have the power to determine the levels of speding that the third the eards are held by the half does men who have the power to determine the levels of speding the provided of the provided of the curs which, as now revealed, call for a cut for the Air Force at 5 billion. Secretary of Defense means an "interin goal" of 10s and the groups instead of the 1st that hid been the target for nearly three years. Others say that the cut will recomply as a provide only 11st groups instead of the 1st that had been the target for nearly three years. Others say that the cut will arguply as 1 provide only 11st groups. The production of a jet to be the start of the work of the production. At the same time, however, that the half does men set the levels of spending, they tall us that this happending.

At the same time, however, that the half does men set the levels of spending, they tall us that this happending.

At the same time, however, that the half does men set the levels of spending, they tall us that this happending.

At the same time, however, that the half does men set the levels of spending, they tall us that this happending.

At the same time, however, that the half does men set the levels of spending, they tall us that this lang background of knowledge and cappending, they tall us that this lang background of knowledge and cappending, they tall us that this lang background of knowledge and cappending, they tall the half does may be the provided of the security they have the security they have the security they have the provided the figure of the security of the provided the figure of the security they have the security they hav

Hemingway Can Now Chuckle At His Erstwhile Critics

By ROBERT C. RUARK

As A heroworshipper, I am real A pleased Preparent of the Service of "Old Man and the Sea" because nobody ever knocked that particular prize unless he was sour-graping, and it's real nice to come back strong when the care was a written for the big, bold once come back strong when the care of the season of the Gerard Season

to call himself critic.

What the reader of long efforts seidom realizes is that there are an avoid lot of commas and prepositions and oroginations in consistent and conjunctions in the lot of the consistent and conjunctions in the consistent and conjunctions and the conjunction of the conjunction

Drew Pearson's Army Atomic Gun To Make Costly Debut Merry-Go-Round

Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

CHIEF pride of the Army is the atomic

Cannon now being tested in Newada.

For approximately two years the Army
has been preparing for this test, even
broke the story of atomic artillery before
the secret was supposed to be known.

Provided the story of atomic artillery is before
the secret was supposed to the known.

Portrainer of land forces or the gallantry
of the doughboy, the cold, sober facts indicate that atomic artillery is largely pride
and waste of the tapaysers' money.

What rillery experiments take place in
Nevada is that the first time the Army
pulls the trigger; at ceast the tapaysers Army
until dissolve in the resulting mushroom
will dissolve in the resulting mushroom
After that first burst, the taxpayers str.

After that first burst, the taxpayers will
dish out \$3.000.000 each time an atomic
shell is fired. The initial amount of \$7.

000.000 covered the cost of the first experimental properties of the strength of the control of the
All this caused a fierce controversy inside the Pentagon over whether atomic artillery is worth all the expense. Because
burns precious fissionable material as if it were as cheap and plentiful as common
black powder. Furthermore 90 per cent
of this fissionable material goes to waste,
as against oady 30 per cent waste in an
acquire bemb.

Outside Looking In

THIS is why some atomic experts charge that the only reason for atomic artillery is to let the Army get in on the atomic act. So far, the Army has been on the outside of the atomic picture looking in.

outside of the atomic picture looking m. And the Army has been so anxious to get into the picture that they proposed to the Atomic Energy Commission that atomic shells for the current Newsale test outside across the continental United the Army that the American public and squeeze out every bit of publicity possible. When the AEC turned this down as too diagnorous, the Army then across the continent instead of a live bomb. The Army them across the continent instead of a live bomb. The Army them across the continent instead of a live bomb. The Army them across the continent instead of a live bomb.

across the continent instead of a live bomb.
In other words, though the Unification Act was supposed to unite the Army
and Navy, it set up one new branch of the
service — the Air Force—and has increased the rivalty of all three.

At a recent meeting of military atomic
experts, the Army representative was asked
point-blank whether the Army would risk
stockpiling atomic shells near the front
during a military engagement, for fear
the enemy might overruit the front line
and capture the \$3,000,000 shells.

The Army repelled that the shelle would

The Army replied that the shells would be kept safe well behind the lines and flown to the front as needed.

THIS highlights the fact that "if the Army I is going to fly atomic shells up to the front, there is no reason why a plane carl' fly a little farther and drop an A-bomb over the enemy instead of landing the plane, unloading the atomic shell, putting it in a cannon and firing it the remaining-few miles.

few miles.

Air Force and atomic officials argue that
an airplane might as well carry a bomb—
which is much cheaper than an atome
shell—over enemy lines and drop it in the
first place, thus avoiding the trouble of
landing fields, loading and unloading, etc.

amoing fields, loading and unloading, etc.
Furthermore, the Army intends to use
spoter planes to direct atomic-artillery
fire. This means that the spotter plane
tisel might just a grid drop in A-bomb
instead of direct ground artillery whose
to fire an A-shell.

to fire an Ashell.

The Army counters this with the argument that the atomic cannon is more accurate than atomic bombing from the air and can be executed in any kind of weather. To this, atomic scientists reply that planes can drop an A-bomb within 150 feet of a target—which is just about, as cross enough for such a devastating explosion.

inated and carry deadly radiation back to our own troops. In Nevada, for instance, the Atomic Energy Commission will not permit an atomic test if there's the slight-est bit of bad weather.

est oit of bad weather.

The Army also contends that the atomic cannon is mobile—rather a strange argument regarding an artillery piece so heavy and cumbersome that it can cross few of the world's existing bridges. Fact is the Army will have to build special bridges and roads to reach most areas.

"Certainly the atomic cannon isn mobile than a plane," snorted one s when he heard the Army argument.

Despite these drawbacks, the Army has asked for 100 atomic cannons and a large but secret stockpile of shells. And while the Navy and Air Force have been alsashed to the bone, the Army is the only branch of the service which has been increased to the time of \$1.500,000.

This has caused some Pentagon officials from other services—to remark that they wish President Eisenhower had served in their branch rather than in the Army.

However, the fact remains that if the military budget is to be cut without endangering national security, it must be cut not according to Army or Navy pride, but according to weapon efficiency. It looks as if the atomic cannon is not worth the tre-mendous outlay of dollars.