

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

B. S. GRIFFITH. ---- Executive Editor C. A. McKNIGHT (On Leave)

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1955

Tar Heel Legislature Should Close 'The Case Of The Bartered Ballot'

The Large Uf I he Bartered Ballot'

WE ARE. therefore, unanimus in the belief that this special privilege of civilian absentee voting should be repealed by the 1935 General Assembly, and in the belief that its repeal will do more to inspire confidence in the fairness of our elections that other thing we can do now. The State Board of Elections wrapped up its indictment of a political privilege turned political privilege and had not formed an opinion of his own.

The Thermore. there are indications that North Carolina's Democratic Party is still a little sensitive about the subcontrol privilege and embarrass party cheftrains.

Golf fineer political capital made by off fineer political capital made by an experiment of the privilege and embarrass party cheftrains.

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A BILL tossed in the Senate hopper A vesterday by Sen. C. V. Henkel Jr. of Iredell would retain the absentee ballot only for persons in military service, their wives when they are residing temporarily with their husbands outside their home county, members of the mer-

Shortly after the election board's unanimous recommendation. Gov. Luther Hodges voiced similar convictions.

"I believe that the harmful et at of the use of the absentee ballot in event years have outweighed the good effects, the declared. To the General Assembly on Jan. 6 he said:

"I join with the State Decentary of the worst type.

Occasionally, ballots are bought and sold.

Even when theorem.

he declared. To the General Assembly on Jan. 6 he said:

"I join with the State Board of Electrons in asking you to abolish the civilian absentee hallot provision for the general elections. It was one of the major requests in the took 10 weeks for appropriate lecislation to find its way into Raleigh's political remains a possible to the provision of the privilege of the provision of the provisi

The source of all the trouble must be

The source of all the trouble must be removed.

The civilian absentee ballot was abolished in primaries in 1939.

There is nothing to do now but extend that 1939 rule to general elections.

The Test Is Quality-Not Quantity

T'S A HOARY tradition in Washington
—perhaps as old as President Fillmore's bathtub—that new senators may
be seen but not heard.

he seen but not heard.

In the raucous 84th Congress, however, only one member of the Senate's 1955 freshman class is toeing an orthodox line. He is North Carolina's highly unorthodox Kerr Scott.

Now we'd be the last to call Sen. Scott a hidebound traditionalist but if must be noted that, during the first eight weeks of the current session, he has not only been reasonably quiet but has failed to drop a single bill in the hopper. In fact when we checked the other day he was the only member of the U. S. Senate without at least one bill to his name.

name. Perhaps Mr. Scott has learned an im-

portant political lesson: A lawmaker is judged by the quality of the legislation he sonsors, not the quantity. Seasoned 'Jegislators ponder long before they lend their names to a bill. For instance, according to Robert Albright's box score in the Washington Sors & Thurs-Hearld, old legislative hands like Sens. Alben W. Barkley (D. K.Y.). Clifford P. Case (R.N.Y.) and Stuart Symington (D.Mo) sponsored but one bill apiece during the first eight weeks. Senators who have their names on no more than two bills include Harry Flood Byrd (D.Va.). John Stemis (D.Miss) and John O. Pastore (D.R.). Who holds the record for bills introduced so far'. Why, North Dakota's erratic old William Langer (R), of course, with 69.

Shamrock Saga: St. Patrick & All That

YOU were no bit o' green today?

Then the back o' Erni's hand to you!

But an Old Country custom might save your head from a shilleach—if you can find a hatful of shamrocks. Once in every Irish household on St. Patrick's Day a plateful of the herb was placed upon the dining table for luck and the master of the house was expected to "down the shamrock" with generous draughts of whisky ... and then send the hottle down to the kitchen for the servants. In fact, inns in every Irish hamlet were honor-bound to serve a "Patrick's pot" of beer and whisky and a small allowance of oaten bread and fish. It was free to all comers who could choke it down.

down.

St. Patrick might not have approved fall this poteen-nipping but he is said b have taught Ireland the art of dis-lling and all full-blooded Irishmen like believe it.

to believe it.

The good saint is better known, however, for his flame-snorting missionary
work in transforming Ireland's barbaric
hordes into an enlightened nation. Of
course, he drove all the snakes from
the Emerald Isle during his fourth century elegency convenien.

the Emerald Isle during his fourth cen-tury cleanup campaign.
Legend tells of one hoary old serpent in Lough Dilween who refused to be banished. So Patrick left him, promising to return "on Monday." The good saint forgot to come back though and to this day, neighbors claim, the serpent still lives in the deen. He is most ancient by now but each Monday he rises to the surface of the lake, peers around and mutters, "It's been a long Monday. Patrick," and sinks wearily below the surface again.

and mutters. "It's been a long Monday, Patrick," and sinks wearily below the surface again.

St. Patrick's "war of magie" with Ire-land's pagan Druids on the hill of Shane was as dramatite as his snake hunts. It seems that the saint provoked the High King of Ireland by kinding a sacred fire at Eastertide and then had to match miracle for miracle with the Druid priests—Patrick performing with light and the Druids with Jarkness in one frenzied succession of abracadabras, the pagan priests brought darkness and couldn't dispel it. When Patrick chased away the night with a waye of permindule with the priest of the pagan priests brought darkness and couldn't dispel it. When Patrick chased away the night with a waye of permindule to the pagan priest before in the kindom. But Druid antagonism was so great that Patrick, despite his benevolent disposition, finally had to curse the pagan lands (so they became dreary bogs),

curse their kettles (so no amount of fire would make them boil) and later curse the Druids themselves (so the earth oppened up and swallowed them).

He used a drum to dispel Ireland's sernents but pounded it so hard once that he knocked a gaping hole in it and endangered the success of an important miracle. An ancel hurried to the rescue, mended the drumhead and with the next thump a particularly bachumored sernent yanished in thin air.

The Irish say he could also blow on a snowball when he was out of matches and create fire. What if he was out of snowballs? Well, then he always had matches.

matches.

Experts are not really sure whether today is the anniversary of his birth or death but some contend he lived to be 120 and when he died the sun didn't set on Ireland for 12 days and 12 nights.

There is more controversy over whether he was born in Ireland, Scotland, England or France or whether there were really a half dozen Patricks.

But the good saint is credited with But the good saint is credited with founding 365 churches and baptizing 12,000 Irishmen.

12.000 Irishmen.
And today all over the Emerald Isle
they're sineing:
'Twas on the top o' this high hill St.
Patrick preached the sarmint.
That drove the frogs into the bogs and
bothered all the varmint.

It's impossible to tell what the Russians are going to do next. In fact it's almost impossible to know what they are doing right now. And to be altogether truthful. We aren't sure what they have been doing in't the past. — KINGSPORT (TENN.) TIMES.

You can conceal almost anything these days under the title of a "workshop." Time was when a bunch of fellows, eager to sneak off somewhere for a bull session, would do just that and call it a bull session. Today, however, the same event is called a workshop.—ROCKY MOUNT TRIRGAM.

The girl in the office who only scans the headline says that she is never sure whether it's fashions or Premiers that the French have changed. — MATTOON (ILL.) JOURNAL-GAZETTE.

1 Don't Know, Fella-I'm A Stranger Here Myself'



People's Platform

What On Earth Is Barbecue?



Legislature's Anti-Whammy Bill 'Vicious, Irresponsible'

By CHARLES R. KELLEY

Bill 'Viccious, Irresponsible'

1. Relier' Note: Mr Kelley, a provision of speeching and short Carolina State College, wrise this spirited defense of the whammy for the Raleigh News & Observer.)

1. ReAD with some amusement several weeks back about a North Carolina state legislator, caught for speeding by an electronic a peed in the who introduced a bill to restrict the use of the kind of device who introduced a bill to restrict the use of burglar alarms. Such a law might speed in the speed with the speed with

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Ike Will Farm A Little At Gettysburg

WASHINGTON
COUNTRY living" at Gettysburg and
celsewhere dominated the conversation when Farmer lie
for Johnson of Wisconsin and other
freshman congressmen the other day.
Johnson wondered if Ike's farm near
Gettysburg, Pa., was making money, ex"You should have settled on whitefreshman congressmen the other day.
Johnson wondered if Ike's farm near
Gettysburg, Pa., was making money, ex"You should have settled on whitesplaning that he himself had tried to
operate a farm while living in the city,
and he limally sold out to his
Satisfied with a small profit from his
satisfied with a small profit from
allow "Rectains of Ike" when the votes were counted,
where Johnson of Wisconsin and other
freshman congressmen the wond to be
set Johnson on wondered if Ike's farm near
Gettysburg, Pa., was making money, ex"You should have settled on whitedoperate a farm while living in the city,
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for flee! When the votes were counted,
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