The Charlette News

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1938

Smoot's Law

a candid moment some years the late Senator Reed Smoot

"I care not which party is in power, the cost of government will always rise."

This is what The Baltimore Eve-ing Sun delights in calling Smoot's Lest, and in that it has never failed awit would seem to be. The Hoover coministration cost more than the Coolding Administration; the Rosse-Coolinge Administration; the Roose-west Administration in turn cost-more than the Hoover Administra-sion. And insofar as the Roosevelt Administration can set the sights of feature administrations, the country is to be called on to support hence-levels as seven-billion-dollar Federal Government.

sees, "the expenditures of the na-sal government cannot be cut th below seven billion dollars a without destroying essential." tions or letting people starve." I what in case of prosperity's re-Smottens or letting people starve."
and what in case of prosperity's reburn, so that people may feed themears by their own initiative? Why,
"one every effort to hold the normal
Federal expenditures to approxi-Federal expenditures to approxi-mately the present level, thus making

liposable . . . not only to balance the budget but to reduce the debt." But this is where Smoot's Low comes in. The cost of government is a steadly-increasing, not a constant, factor. Once having established a seven-billion-dollar scale. The next step is bound to be up-

Caught in a Void

sanity is of different types, some curable, some incurable. It is, however, a disease, a disease of the mind just as much as tuberculosis, say, is a disease of the lungs and other organs. Patients at the Mecklenburg Sanatorium for tubercular diseases receive most constant care diseases receive most constant and skilled medical attention, the result that cures are made well patients discharged to way for others. But away is cell in the detention quartethe Mecklenburg County Homone mentally diseased Negro has been there for 22 years. result that cures are made and result that cures are made and l patients discharged to make for others. But away in his in the detention quarters of Mecklenburg County Home sits mentally diseased Negro who been there for 22 years.

has been there for 22 years.
Curable? Who knows. In all probability, no effort has been made to cure him or the other present 30 immates awaiting removal, some of them for years, to a State hospital for the insane. Cray derelicts, caught between indifference and divided authority, they sit gibbering. caught between indifference and di-vided authority, they sit gibbering, cackling days and nights without and or beginning. "You goona sen' us a picture?" they implored The News cameramin. By now, pos-cibly, their impaired minds do not varian the knowledge that they had their picture taken. Forgetting and almost forgotten, they at by the hour in nauscaling filth, uncompre-bated in the property of the con-lections. ading, hopeless, unhelped. An poinsibility for their care an atment is primarily the State! the State has not the facilitie care for or treat them. the facilities

Neil and His Breed

Edward J. Neil, dead in Spain war correspondent for the As-ted Press, a salute. He died in since to as rigid and absolute nce to as rigid and absolute tition as any of the celebrated corps of the world ever d. A tradition whereunder proter worth his salt goes and story when ordered to get d as fully and vividiy as is the possible. A tradition that

as. say, you and we would be dear readers.

But there! in our desire to honor poor Nell: as. he deserves: 1.0 be. honored, we shill be getting mawkish and seeming to lend our support to the romantic twaddle about the reporter peddled by Hollywood. As a matter of fact, it is only the occasional reporter who ever makes a profession of danger. Thousands of the breed life their thirty years in the trade without ever facing real danger more than twice or thrice. And thousands more without ever facing it at all. By and large, indeed, it's a pretty prosale and safe, in, truth, that the insurance companies rate it almost in the class of a "sedentary occupation!" The reporter lakes a little greater risk than the men on the copy desks, though not much greater. But say this for them—that when the time comes, they will take it and will take it and will say. comes, they will take it and wil-

Legal, But Hardly Equitable

Down in Greenwood County, South Carolina, where is the site of the proposed Buzzards Roost power plant, they are getting up a cele-bration for tomorrow might. And with excellent reason, for by the signant the Duke Power Co., creenwood County is to receive an outright gift from PWA Administrator. Ickes equal to about \$18\$ for every man, woman and child of its \$6,078 inhabitants. In addition, a loan of \$2,195,000 is to be made on no security save the power plant it is to build.

And there is no doubt as to the

curity save the power plant it is to build.

And there is no doubt as to the legality of the transaction, not in the mind of the Supreme Court, anyhow, which is what counts. Mr. Justice Sutherland, one of the right-wirgers, read the opinion to which there was no dissent, not ven from the characteristic dissecter Mr. Justice McReynolds. Bu if it is legal for the Federal Government to make a combination gift and loan to Greenwood County for the purpose of enabling it to enter into direct and unequal competition with direct and unequal competition with a private power company, the de-sirability of the transaction still cludes us. Honestly, no. Isn't it in flagrant violation of the Ameri-can sense of fair play for a dominant can sense of fair play for a dominant rovernment to siphon up axes from the public, including power companies, and to make do attons to a lesser government the 1t may compete with taxpaying power companies?

panies?

It would seem so to so, clearly, and all the more when it is done under the fictional premise of relieving unemployment. The real reason for it, as everybody knows, is Mr. Ickes and his determination to chastize the power companies.

But Without a Pouch

Last night we started to cross the intersection at Seventh and Tryon intersection at Seventh and Tryon with the green light, and having taken a dozen steps had to leap for our lives to escape from the fenders of automobiles which started zoomly across before the yellow light was well up. The cop at the corner only gave us a dirty look. That started us to reflecting on many other such narrow escapes and to the somewhat pointed-up inclusion that of the towns of this earth we have seen — and we have seen more than two — Chaplotte is that town where the pedestrian gets least conwhere the pedestrian gets least con sideration from motorist and th least protection from the olice. And a poll among various acq aintances establishes that the belie seems to be pretty general.

Still, we reflect; the practice may have its uses. Charlotte pedestrians who succeed in living against such odds will have to be a suppleand again to the process will undoubtedly be particularly blessed with those admiratel qualities. Indeed, if the I amarckian theory of evolution holds, it may be possible that eventually the very form of the fellow will undergo change to adapt him felleaping. Long ago in Thessay, Mr. Kuester, there was a legendary creature called a centaur, half ma and half horse. And so maybe is 2040 the pedestrian in Charlotte may be a creature, man from the neck up and kangaroo from the neck down. Still, we reflect; the practice may

Mr. John Grown Plaintive

We envy Mr. John Carson his job less than ever now. Mr. John as you may not remember is consumers Counsel to the National Bituminous Coal Commission. Which is to say that it is Mr. John's Job to go before that commission and make a convincing noise &e a government-anxious to see that the coal prices it has already announced purpose to raise will not mean that the consumer has to pa more.

Mr. John himself, Indeed, so far from seeing his too in hat light, seems actually to believ that he was hired to see that the consumer got a real break. In November last he was proudly and confidently individually and support to come to Washington and aid him in presenting his case in what he appropriately expected to be an open-

under fire he is as certainty atraid minded hearing. But now a plaintive as, say, you and we would be, dear readers.

But there! In our desire to honor avorage and querulous note has crept into the communications with which he such as the say of the communications with which he such as the say of favors us. Came December 21, when the hearing was to be held, says. Mr. John — and had the commission furnished him with the data he had requested, as it is required to do by law? On the contrary, the replies, he had been furnished with only what the public generally had been furnished with As matters. had been furnished with, As matters stand, he avers, there is 'not one scintilla" of evidence in the record that coal prices ought to be raised, and still, with 'another hearing set for January 4, he can't come by any information on which to base his case. The commission in short not only hasn't bothered to enable Mr. John actually to defend the consumer, but, sitting on its mandarin hunkers, hasn't even been accommodating enough to let him make a dating enough to let him make a noise like a man seeing that the consumer was defended.

Poor Mr. John! His education in bureaucracy has just begun.

THIS BUNNY WON'T HELP

WASHINGTON—In some form or other—so the rumors have it—we are now going to have a graduated corporation tax. That is to say the percentage rate of tax on income of a corporation will rise

sharply as its income increases — up to 25 per cent of

to 25 per cent of the net.

The argument is,

That's what we do to individuals—why not do it to a corporation? On that is no sense in stopping at 25 per cent—We might just as well take 70 per cent to 80 per cent from a \$5.00,000 income.

That's what we do to individuals, They also say that this is taxing on the principle of "ability to pay."

If some of these economic zanies knew

If some of these economic zanies knew a little more about business, they might not yet be half-witted, but perhaps they then would be competent enough to act, in a business capacity, as African dodger at a county fair.

A corporation doesn't make money for itself. It is Simply it makes money for A Tax on the its stockholders. Big Stockholder orporations have proportionately a greater number of shareholders from the stockholder. The stockholder whether without the income taxes are simply taxes on the income taxes are simply taxes on the income of these sharcholders. The stockholder, whether widow orphan or cierk holding a few shares, or insurance companies or banks holding the savings of millions of peoples of all classes, are the persons really prejudent more by higher taxes on the shad of stock they may happen to have a shad of stock they may happen to mail to be incompanied to the stock they may happen to make the stock they may happen to make the stock they may happen to the stock has value unless it earns money and its value unless it earns money and its value varies in proportion to what it earns.

what it earns

To tax people who

And Destroys
Gapital To
No Purpose
No Purpos

It simply destroys it to no useful pur-pose whatever and the total weeksne-max-ran-late-billions. If the purpose is to force investment money from big corporations into little ones, it is incontestably true that small corporations are far less safe and stable than large ones, and the resulting effect, if not the purpose, is still further to impair the stability and security of the people.

If the purpose is to break up big If the purpose is to break up big corporations in fagor-of-riligio ones, that can be well defended as an attempt to preserve individual business independence. But it cannot be advanced as any purpose to protect the concumer and keep prices low. Low prices come from mass-production and mass-distribution, and that is impossible in small

orporations.
It is just another cock-eyed blunder.

Steals Tree From A Yard

Beautiful Cedar Of Glenwood Clubhouse Is Hacked Down

At Christmas Season.

Dear BI
Nearly two years ago the Woman's
Ciub at Olenwood bought "Enderly,"
the old home of the Alexanders, this
being the house that the late S. B.
Alexander, Sr., built-two years after the
Civil War. This place has about two
acres in a beautiful grove of oats. The
women of the Enderly Park and Olenwood community have cherished the old
place. It is a landmark of history and
an ideal place for a community center,
and the fact that it joins the school
properly makes it even more desirable.
These women have been adding shrub-

property makes it even more desirable. These women have been adding shrubbery and trees to the grove along as they were glient to them, and expect to do far more to the place this Sprilin. Two years gao we were all out cleaning off the grove and ran across a small beautifully, shaped cedar. We have watched the cedar as it gree and this. Winter it was large enough for a nice Christmas tree in the home. It was Christmas tree in the home. It was dark green, and an unusually lovely codar. Ere long it would have held bright lights in the yard or grove and as the writer and the president of the club walked through just before Christmas and admired it, we discussed moving it up to a more desirable place than its natural place—but, alasi someone who cared not for the purpose of a community center in a park-like location, went out with an axe in our own front yard and out the cedar and carried it away. Of course, our hearts were feel it away. Of course, our hearts were ried it away. Of course, our hearts were broken, as it cannot be replaced just as it was. It makes one wonder whether one may wake up any morning and find the beautiful shrubs cut out of one's own front yard.

and the beautiful shrubs cut out of once own front yard.
Yes, we have been investigating for the several days since as to who did the deed. So far the mystery has not been solved, but whoever cut the tree did not believe in doing unto others as they would be done by. The club would have gladly given, them a tree if they were so poor they could upt buy one. It is our purpose to be benevolent. Certainly we would not have had them mits having a tree in their own home.

Now, Mr. Editor, please say to anyone who is so badly off to have a Christmas tree that he need not go into our front yard and cut a cherished tree, but that we will see that he gets a tree the next filme.

If people would only stop to think when they go on other people's property and take things that do not belong to them!

If the party who cut this tree will come to us and anologize and promise

If the party who cut this tree will If the party who cut this tree will come to us and apologize and promise to replace the tree as best he can before next Saturday night, this will not go any further. Otherwise, we will have to leave it up to the police department.

MRS. R. B. OSTWALT,

Business Manager, the Women's Club of Glenwood, Inc.

Glenwood, Inc.

WE SHOULD ASK JAPAN TO PRESENT A YEAR'S SUPPLY OF APOLOGIES IN ADVANCE

Can anybody dictate to me what I should write? Because my mind is filled with apologies, one for bombing filled with apologies, one for bombing the Augusta and killing one of our sons, one for taking away our ship and throwing the American flag in the water, and still another for killing and wounding our sons and sinking the ship. Panny. All the apologies read. "We are very sorry—the guilty will be punished." And titls is our great victory? It reminds us of a little story. A man went in bankruptcy and one of his creditiors came to see if he could get something. He told the man a hard luck story and broke his heart. "Well." the man said, "you see that fence over three in the corner? That is my property. A lot of sheep go by this corner during the year and all the wool which it catches will belong to you." The creditor started to laugh. "That is all I am going to get for my five thousand dollars?" The man said, "Yes, I feel that you can well afford to laugh, but what will the other creditors say?"

I have a suggestion to make. If Augusta and killing one of our

what will the other creditors say?"

I have a suggestion to make. If apologies are our great victory, why should we wait for them—it takes a long time and the people are losing their patience. Why not arrange with Japan to give us three hundred and Japan to give us three hundred and skity-five apologies for one year in ad-vance? A printed copy, of these applogies should be given to the As-sociated Press and we will have daily applogies, no matter what Japan does with our children or citizens, but we are safe with the applogies and the country will have a year's peace. Charlotte. Charlotte.

H. ABRAMS.

The Normal Cycle (Norfolk, Virginian-Pilot)

Scouts tell us that the Big Apple is declining in popularity in the South, still rising in popularity in the North. It's easy to foresee the time when New York will export it to us as a native Yankee product.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT ... A PRINTED ONCE. By Ripley

On request, sent with stamped, addressed envelope, Mr. Ripley will furnish proof of anything depicted by him



Today's Cartoon Self-Explanatory

I find it intolerable that in this situation high officials of the United States Govern-ment should make such banal statements

as that the villains are "sixty American families." I wish

such banal statements as that the villains, are "sisty American families." I wish it were so. Then it would be simple. We could guillotine them. Or that "capital has gone on a sit-down strike." Just what does that mean? The utilities, for instance, are trying to get capital, and they can't for the simple reason that the public has no confidence in the investment under the present conditions. The sit-down strike is on the part of the American investing public, which means hundreds of thousands of people.

The presumption that we are asked to accept is that there is a secret conspiracy of a few big business men to bring down the Roosevelt administration by strangling the American conomy; a kind of mass suicide movement in which they would certainly lose their own fortunes and possibly their necks. Also we are told that the object of this conspiracy is to force Congress to repeat all that has been gained in the last five years. Now just what has been gained? A lot of red ink has been transferred from business to the government's pooks at the cost of the American taxingser. There have been definite tains in social consciousness on the part of the American public, including most of business, and for them we have the spirit of the first New Deal to thank. This country is not going back on the idea of social security, or of high inheritance taxes, or of any high taxes that are not economically self-defeating, or of taking measures to protect the investor from fraudulent issues of securities, or of preventing the kind of holding companies that existed prior to 1935.

There has been much technical criticism of many of the Is Greatest acts which have been Peril Of All passed, but the point is that it has been technical. But the administration has constantly tried to twist that criticism, even when it has come from the leading and most distincested experts of the country, into heartiess attacks on the poor and helpless. And this twisting is important. For the emotional flight from the real issues and defects of government acts, accompanied by personal calumny of the critic, is the lactic by which Mr. Hiller and all other fascist dictatorships have come into power on the shoulders of deflued masses.

If today one says that the situation

If today one says that the situation

On The Record

Devil Chasing in Modern Salem

11 IT IS the awful frivoilty of speeches the together the top of Mr. Jackson and Mr. like those of Mr. Jackson and Mr. Rosevelt's attempt to kick American the word frivoilty advisedly. The world will be to the word frivoilty advisedly. The world will be to the word frivoilty advisedly. The world will be to the word frivoilty advisedly. The world will be to the world friend the world friend to quote this publication: "President income with the property of the consumers has only for us, but for the whole civilized and the property of the consumers has failed."

"In the case of the United States, it is becoming evident that under - investment is As a British

Labor Sheet under-investment is producing its Nemests.

Up to a point American recovery could and cheap and ample supply of banking credit supporting a consumer demand which was spanded by vast relief expenditure and, subsequently, rapid wage increases."

penniture area.

This is the comment of a labor organ on the theory of so-called Washington economists that our whole trouble is still an absence of consumer demand and that everything can be solved by

increasing labor purchasing power."

"The penalty," continues 'The New Statesman, "was the absence of any proportionate revival of investment in the capital goods industries—housing, railways and the power utilities. Partly railways and the power utilities. Partly because railsing wages and coasts bade fair to destroy profil "fairgins, partly through mistrust of government's proclivities. American capital has bung back, as French capital has done, from investment. In fixed plants and consumer demand reached this Summer, as it was bound to temporary struction. consumer demand reached this Summer, as it was bound to, temporary saturation point . . . Stocks of commodities . . . now . . . show heavy inventory losses at current prices. If negative investment develops on a large scale, the reactions on the prices of raw materials, and hence on the prosperity of primary producers, may easily convert what is so far a moderate setback to American activity into another world economic crisis."

Let us make no mistake about it. This We Teeter On is what we are up The Briak Of another world economic crists, at a time when class hostilities have been agitated to a sharpness never before, known in our domestic history and when the whole world is torn by contending ideologies, and propagandas.

and propagandas.
The problems we have to try to work out are terrifically complicated. They have to do with certain factors that are beyond our control as a domestic economy, and with perennial paradoxes inside any system of private enterprise: the recurrent dilemma of over-investment at the cost of the workers or ment at the cost of the workers or

ment at the cost of the workers or under-investment because profits disappear.

Now even "The New Statesman and Nation" whose contributors show some structure in their thinking, know that at this moment it is the eccond of these dilemmas which meaness us, and again, "The only think we are flathing for in the control of the control of successors."

Earlier Days

News of 75 and 100 Years Ago From Files in the State Library at Raleigh

JANUARY 4, 1863

A courier has just arrived and stated that the enemy attempted to storm our lines again this morning, but, after severe combat, were reputised. The loss of the enemy is said to be about 370 killed and wounded, and 400 prisoners. Our loss is about 50 killed and wounded.

—Fayetteville Observer.

CAPTURE BY THE ALABAMA

CAPTURE BY THE ALABAMA

R@mondo The Alabama (200) captured the California steamer Ariel with
crew and 140 marines. Her officers were
paroled. Lieutenant Law of the Alabama boarded the Ariel and took possession of \$3,000 of treasury notes,

session of \$3,000 of treasury notes, \$1,500 in silver.

Having destroyed all the sails of the Yankee steamer and removed one of her steam valves, she was bonded for \$125,000 and her cargo for \$125,000 more, the whole to be paid to the Confederate authorities within 30 days after the establishment of the independence of the Confederate States

The news of this capture produced great sensation in New York and Washington.

-Fayetteville Observer.

JANUARY 4, 1838 100 YEARS AGO THE INDIAN TRIBES

THE INDIAN TRIBES

In the late report of the Secretary of War to the President the number of Indians now east of Mississippi is stated at 49.365. The number who havey emigrated from the east to the west side of the river is 51.527; and the number originally belonging to the west number originally belonging to the west side within striking distance of our frontier, 231.586, making a total of 332.498. Estimating every fifth person to be a warrior, the number of warriors will be 66.419, to be kept in order by our

The United States has purchased from the Indians by treaties since the fourth of March, 1829, 715,349,877 acres of land west of the Missussippl, valued at \$32,381,000.

Fayetteville—Observer.

The Retort Pointed

(Christopher Billopp, Baltimore Eve-nthg Sun)
A Baltimorean, fairly up in years, is

A Baltimorean, fairly up in years, is an intimate friend of an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Not so long ago the justice met the Baltimorean, who was at the wheel of his automobile. Being in a facetious mood he called out, "You are much too old a man to be driving a car," "Yes," retrotted the Baltimorean. "And you are much too old a man to be sitting on the bench. The President of the United States has said so."

Putting on Airs

(Greenboro Negs)

Edenton, after a whiff of the Plymouth pulp mill/decides, it was fortunate not to have been chosen as the same for east Carolina's newest industry. But then Edenton in the days of her real glory as herring center was no gardenia.