

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1947

# The Anti-Closed Shop Law

WELL, North Carolina has outlawed the closed shop, the union shop, maintenace of union membership, and the check-off. Or has 10 Nobody know exactly what the North Carolina Legislature did when it passed the anti-closed shop bill. Proponents of the measure called no competent legal exthe anti-closed shop bill. Proponents of the measure called no coimpetent legal experts to interpret the measure. The opposition lawyers who did appear before the House and Senate Committees warned that the bill was loosely drawn and in all probability would promote a vast amount of litigation. And they raised the most serious question of all: Does it affect interstate commerce or only intrastate commerce or only intrastate commerce wery unton member in North Carolina; if intrastate commerce the bill will cover a mere handful of organized workers.

There was little doubt, however, as to the intent of the bill. Its authors talked about the "right to work" and wrote easure, but they did not try, the substitute of the principal province. The fill was punitive in nature, designed doubt the "right to work" and wrote easure, but they did not try, the substitute of the principal in the control of the province of the control of th

beyond the reach of the North Carolina Legislature.

It seems to us that not even the most dedicated opponent of labor unions, one who is in absolute accord with the ends sought by this bill, can take pride in the manner in which it was introduced, debated, and finish passed Four times, twice in committee, and twice on the british to the committee, and twice on the trivial processing the control of the committee of the committe

serious effort to answer them; in the Senate, not a single voice was raised in support of the measure. Yet the bill—one of the few of such far-reaching implications to past through the mill without amendment—passed both houses unchanged and without a record voice.

Labor leaders have called the measure a stab in the back the stable the measure at stab in the back the stable that it is doubtfulf if it can survive the court tests that are certain to follow. But there is no doubt that it stands as a "siap in the face" for labor. And there is no doubt that it was so intended.

This legislation can be justified only on the grounds that organized labor in North Carolina has demonstrated utter irresponsibility, has consistently violated the rights of non-union workers, and constitutes a growing threat to the welfare of the state. If these things are true it seems to us the members of the Legislature would have in sisted upon their right to be counted darecorded as supportees on winced that their own the state of the state. If the state is the state is the state of the state is the state of the state is the state of the state. If the state is the state is the state is the state of the state is the state of the state is the state of the state. If the state is the state is the state is the state of the state is the state of the state. If the state is the state is the state is the state of the state is the state of the state is the state of the state. If the state is the state is the state is the state of the state is the state of the state. If the state is the state of the state. If the state is the

## To Break The Bottlenecks

SOME weeks ago City Council asked the Mecklenburg Delegation to sponsor in the Legislature an amendment to the City charter that would permit the improvement of through streets without full as-sessment of costs against owners of abut-ting property. The Delegation, functioning

ting property. The Delegation, functioning in its role of upper house, refused.

The matter has now been reopened, and Council has received an important assist from the Transportation Committee of the Chamber of Commerce. The Planning Board has also entered the discussion, pointing out that the master street plan now being worked out for Charlotte cannot be placed into effect until the Charter is amended. Under the present restrictions, streets in

Under the present restrictions, streets in Charlotte can be improved only at the direct expense of the persons who own property along them. In the great majority of cases this is entirely satisfactory. But there are a numbef of streets in the city that must be opened, whether or not the owners of abutting property so desire. The network of major boulevards proposed for the future by the Planning Board, for instance, cannot come into being until the City has suthority to widen and improve certain existing streets that will serve as major con-

necks

necting links. A narrow, unimproved street may serious the needs of property-owners personal to the continuous property of the continuous property of the continuous property of the continuous property of the continuous property owners for improvements they do not need, and which would serve the interests of the city as a whole.

The present charter restriction has some merit, in that it serves as a safeguard against the possibility that an irresponsible Council might use City funds to improve streets for political purposes. That safeguard, however, could be continued by a simple provision that no street could be improved at the City's expense unless authorized by a majority vote in open session after full public discussion, including the prior filing of notice of intensive from the Chamber of Commerce will be sufficient to cause the Delegation to reconsider its earlier refusal. The matter is of the first importance to Charlotte, for the present trafic bottlenecks cannot-be broken without charter revision. There is no time for dealy: the Legislatity's session is rapidly drawing to a close 'and unless the necessary local bill is introduced at once the attack on Charlotte's traffic problems will have to be postponed for two more years.

## The Same Old Maurice?

MAURICE CHEVALIER is back on 114 Broadway, and according to all accounts he is receiving a warm welcome. Nothing much has changed—he attill beather the spirit of the boulerards, he still the art he jaunty straw hat, his accent is still thick and charming, the famous lip still just forward, as Earl Wilson noted, like the top rung of a turtle neck sweater. A little older, a little gray at the temples, but still the same old Maurice. But we wonder if Maurice will find, when he passes beyond the confines of Broadway's half-world, that he is in the same old America. Broadway, and according to all ac-

hall-world, that we assured the rumors that he was a collaborationist during the years of the Nazl occupation. He has been accepted again in Paris, he points out, and his fellow-countrymen would certainly know if he had worked with the invaders.

"Lambur as and the war on the Riviera." He simply sat out the war on the Riviera, he says, having as little to do with the Germans as possible.

In a negative sense at least, this clears the record. But those Americans who fought across France will recall that there were other Frenchmen who did not att out the war. They will remember the guerrillas of the Fri, who came out of French yillages, grinning, to greet the attacking doubthops with the came out of French yillages, grinning, to greet the attacking doubthops with the common garden. They will remember the French underground railway that transported many a grounded Allled filer to safety. They will recall the moonless nights when Frenchmen stood silently in the fields to receive the packages of dynamite arriving by parachite and destined for a bridge far behind the German lines.

A good many Americans are likely to think of these things when they hear Maurice's saucy sons. They will weigh his ration—that he did nothing, and they will think: That is precisely the point; in the hour of his country's greakest peril. Maurice Chevaller did nothing.

## Another Voice

## Then Why Not Vote?

PERSONALLY we are willing to leave to

PERSONALLY we are willing to leave to Mackienburg County the matter of what it does about continuing its so-called prohibition or ameliorating it somewhat with ABC stores in Charlotte, but it could be wished that those who affect to stand, for the better thought and more sincere purpose of the area were better mannered in the presentation of their cause.

Those appearing at Raleigh against the bill to submit a referendum are reported as insisting that the House members from their county are "bools" of the 'we'! lead-ers. Dr. Casper Warren, president of the State Baghist Convention and pastor of the First Baghist Church of Charlotte, who led the opponents of the reforendum bill, it also quoted as asying that the "10,000 white church members" of the county, 'will rise as one man to strike this thing (the bill-before the Legistature) down.

Then, may we ask in all borberley, with here a seat for which way the vote goes, they as an all neclebant over a proposed.

Mecklenburg do not believe the county's representatives are the "tools" of anybody—and if so, these same 70000 church members had a shot at them last November. We also know—or least we judge from our knowledge of 70,000-plus other church members—that there will be no voting as one man on any liquor question in Mecklenburg, in Cuiliford. Catawba or any North Carolina community.

lenburg, in Guilford. Catawba or any North Carolina community. Seriously, do the earnest, sincere prohi-bitionists of North Carolina want to trust the leadership of their cause to those who in taking a vote on a matter affecting three and a half million people start off with the assumption that the "Aye"—in without even permitting a division to be called?

called?

We are willing to concede the moral or spiritual inertia and stupidity of some of our wetter neighbors; but, honestly, sometimes we are hard put to it to find a sportsman in the entire dry line-up.—Greensboro hottle Newley

'Pretty Rough Stretch Here, Eh, Driver?'



# People's Platform

# A Poetic Ouestion

the way you wish.

The ones who vote for liquor should be subject to live with a drunken demon for a while and suffer or even see their children suffer through it. Which they are bound to do if it is woted in. They would do not be to the subject of the subject

## WHISKY WHERE IS THY PLACE?

COOD in its place! Where is thy place? Thou fiend! that's cursed the human race. Where is thy place? Oh let me tell.
For I have learned thy secret well.

o see the graves that you have filled o see the blood you have spilled en tell me there is a place, here you should show your demon face

Go ask the drunkard's wretched wife What's been the terror of her life. What turned her raven locks to snow? And laid her wretched husband low?

See how she looks by man forsaken; See how by want and sorrow shaken, See her hide in deep disgrace— Then say no more about your place.

Go hear the orphan's cry for bread, Go hear the widow mourn her dead, Go see the drunkard's haggard face, And ask of them

Ask the pauper at the poor house door What makes his heavy heart sore? He'll say while tears run down his face. Because he had for you a place.

Go see the place where demons lurk Go watch them in their devilsh work As they with knives each other chase And there, vile whisky, there is thy place.

There's where the gallows finds its food.
There's where the prison gets its brood.
There's where crime and poverty embrace.
While rushing on their head long race.

CHARLOTTE History

Editors, THE NEWS:

A COUPLE of weeks or so ago you published an article by Drew Pearson, entitled "Marshall Greets Negro in the White House," and besides chronicling the visit of Brigadier General Davis to the White House, the visits of a couple of other colored people to the White House were mentioned—but the one visit that caused the greatest man and conflicted.

sensation was omitted.
When Theodore Roosevelt was in the White House, Booker T. Washington, the Nerro education stayed longer than had been sultipated, and when saked to lunch with him, and accepted. At the time, it caused a six rill over the country and led to the loke which persisted for years after T. R. had gone to his reward.

one of the opposition Senators, upon being introduced to T. R., said "Mr. President, your administration shall be linked with Washington."

"You do not mean," modestly replied T. R., his th brightly glistening, "that I will go down in tory with George Washington?" "No," said the then Claghorn, "with Booker T. Washington."

-H. E. COHEN.

## Spelling

Editors, The News:

The stateched is part of a headline from your paper

The stateched is part of a headline from your paper

But a better surface. Sunrise is usually

spelled as here written. Is it spelled with a "2" when

it refers to an Easter sun?

JOHN H. VICKERS.

(NOTE: Sunrise is spelled "sunrize" only when gremlins are operating around our copy desk and composing room.—Eds. THE NEWS).

ATLANTA

CHARLOTTE

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS: Editors. The News:

I wellnods in the street intersections in Charlotte. Having lived in Charlotte for a number of years, I noticed several improvements at dangerous intersections on a recent visit, which I am sure were brough only to the contract of the

-R. H. RALLS

The Feople's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be less than 300 words, typewriten VI possible, and on only the possible and on only the platform of the communication of the

## Marquis Childs

# Our Responsibilities

IT would be difficult to challengs a single word in President Truman's cautiously phrased message to Congress equesting 4400,000,000 to sid on creece and Turkey. But what declared to the side of the

sounded louder than what the President said.

During the long debate over the
\$170,000,000 loan to England.

Strong of the Str

tience. It invites a return to inniam.

"If further funds, or further authority, should be needed for purposes indicated in this message indicated in this message indicated in this message in the funds of the fund

# **Harold Ickes**

# Mr. Hoover's Dam

pilsiment by the Republican Con-gress that took over more than two-months ago.

It is a superior to the congress to the morting so fast that the people cam-not see it move at all. Why, only the other day the House, after the most prodigious ponderine, passed the control of the control of the most prodigious ponderine, passed Boulder Dam to Hower Dam. "To honor Mr. Hoover ought to go far to satisfy housewive who are com-plaining about the cannot find a place to live at any price. No doubt it will mean food for the starving abroad and will serve notice on a place to live at any price. No doubt it will mean food for the starving abroad and will serve notice on the control of the cannot find a strong the control of the starving abroad and will serve notice on the control of the cannot find a strong the control of the starving abroad and will serve notice on the control of the cannot find a strong t

MASHINGTON

Am impatient with my fellow
Americans who are impatient with the seeming lack of accomplishment by the Republican of the results of the results

## ANOTHER PRINCIPLE

the legislation.

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separated to the Boulder Dam
project, and, WHEREAS, the buil
the lake President Calvin Coolidge
and, WHEREAS, Senator Smoot, in
1800, offered a buil in the Senate
changing the name to Hoover Dam
which buil a Republican Senate refused to pass, and, WHEREAS, Mr.
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### CAUSE FOR SURPRISE

# Drew Pearson's: Rent Control Debated At Secret Caucus Merry-Go-Round: rency Chairman Tobey of New Hampshire and Taft led off this discussion. Taft explaining that the matter of continued refit control is "a question of Republican policy." That do you mean by that statement? "scraped Marginery "Why the absprot of the position on rent control." That the absolute take a united position on rent control." Taft rentinued: "That's why we're coing to discuss it tonight, so that we can take a position." Taft, however, seems a bit undecided as to what the coing to discuss it tonight, so that we can take a position. Taft, however, seems a bit undecided as to what the coing to discuss it tonight, so that we can take a position." Taft, however, seems a bit undecided as to what the coing to discuss it tonight, so that we can take a position. Taft, however, seems a bit undecided as to what the coing to discuss it tonight, so that we can take a position." The position of the posit

THE man who supplied a large part of the fireworks at the closef-door Senare apphilican "gripe" case was not considered to the constraint of the constraint

manded a greater voice in party contained as the content of the co

Baldwin Rebuffed
O'st, betwole, the GOP Senate caucus proved a healthy
Orserience in democracy, during which several young
Republicans made it clear that they wernt going to be
stopped on by the party bosses.
Though all newsmen were barred, it can \$5" reported
Though all newsmen were barred, it can \$5" reported
to the state of the state of the state of the letter which Connecticut's new Senator Baldwin and fifteen
other newcomers sent to GOP Chairman Carroll Reese complaining of Republican leadership. Veteran Senator Owen
Brewster of Mathe then took Baldwin to tax mainly for
sured him, as did other GOP leaders, that everything would
be worked out statistactoryl. Baldwin replied be to was

tinued controls.
"Im against any across-the-board raising of rent cellings until the housing shortage is over." he said. "If there are certain hardship cases involving the smaller landlords, there's no reason why an administrative board cannot handle such cases and see that justice is done."

# Bricker Champions Landlords

Bricker Champions Lamoutes

OHIO'S silver-hatched John Bricker emphatically disgreed with this. He wasted the complete shelling of
rent controls, and spote about freed from Benators preschi
hardships of landlerds. Bap Bricker took at Tatt's earlier
proposal of a special commission to administer rent controls.

OPA by creating a Republican OPA, option Tatt's alleged
friend from Ohio.

Benators Wiley of Wisconsin, Williams, the Sciaware

New York's Ives was equally strong for continued rent controls. New York we have a state sent-control statem." He was the control of the property of the prope