

THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 1947

The Problem Of Enforcement

POLICE Chief Frank Littlejohn, who has been wrestling with problems of law enforcement in Charlotte most of his adult life...

It is quite true, as Chief Littlejohn noted also, that the gallon law leaves the present prohibition statute in a hole...

It is a magnificent irrelevancy to compare laws prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages with the laws prohibiting murder, rape, arson or prostitution...

The great majority of the citizens of Mecklenburg will lend moral support and even active aid to Chief Littlejohn's efforts...

stances? Would they further refuse to associate socially with any person who served strong drink? Would they call Chief Littlejohn to report that a neighbor has liquor in his possession...

The answer, of course, is that the great majority of Mecklenburg's citizens would succeed in enforcing a personal obligation to uphold the laws prohibiting murder, etc. but it does not extend to prohibition.

Chief Littlejohn believes prohibition serves three socially destructive purposes: (1) it finances organized crime in various fields through the enormous profits from the sale of bootleg liquor...



People's Platform

The Unscientific Approach

Editorial: THE NEWS: RELATIVE to the current ABC store controversy, I must say I am unable to comprehend in its entirety the position maintained by the Dry element...

CHARLOTTE: Would Mr. Adams' sympathy for these poor seek bootleggers' indifference? Would Mr. Adams urge him to vote for ABC stores for their special benefits...

Mr. Adams would have county saloons in Mecklenburg and let the ABC drinkers produce profits to reduce taxes, create parks, reduce the public debt and build public buildings...

In France, only one year ago, licensed segregated prostitution was abolished. Today there is a discussion of a return to the evil traffic in human souls...

Disastrous

Editorial: THE NEWS: THE chief argument of the advocates of ABC whisky is that it would put bootleggers out of business. Do not let this party slang fool you...

(NOTE: Additional communications dealing with the coming ABC election will be found on page 15-A-Eds., The News.)

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be less than 300 words, typewritten if possible...

Senator Soaper Says:

THE movement begun in Newburyport strikes some of the profounder economists as a bit amusing. It is a case of a man who is not a veteran but is one where you take a high price and lower it.

One of Oshin Winstone's academy paintings is entitled "Winter Sunlight" described as a landscape and not the Churchillian smile as bestowed on Mr. Atlee.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round: Tom Clark Replies To Whitewash Charge

ATTORNEY GENERAL Tom Clark was listening to a barrage of criticism from Republican Senators during the hearing on the Kansas City vote scandal...

Certainly, starting, I'll be glad to add your name, continued Mrs. Gates. I'll put you at the top of the list.

Secret Housing Squabbles: WHITNEY handles of mass publicity, Congressional concern has been taking place which affect housing for several million veterans...

Part of these talks have been held secretly inside the Joint House-Senate Conference Committee, of which two House members and one Senator are members...

Before the housing bill got to secret conference, however, another Senator who is not a veteran had taken body blow on the Senate floor. He is affable Senator Douglas Bayne of Delaware...

Several Senators who had been closely following the housing debate immediately protested, among them Flinders of Vermont, a Republican, and Sparkman of Alabama...

WASHINGTON: THE flood of comment on the labor bill has been in terms of (1) politics and (2) the changes which will be brought about in our system of industrial relations over a period of years...

PERIOD OF UNCERTAINTY: That may be two years of comparative uncertainty while the enlarged National Labor Relations Board is trying to administer a complicated new law...

PERIOD OF BARGAINING: A great deal has been said about what will be the result of the new measure of State LABOR PROOF...

There is one group, however, that will benefit beyond a shadow of a doubt those who are not waiting for the present law to be replaced by a new law...

THE broad shape of a great program, comprehensive in scope and bold in design, for dealing with the industrial postwar crisis in Europe, is already becoming clear...

It is hoped that this end may be achieved through the medium of two agencies, one European and the other American...

AGENCY'S GOALS: The European agency, a joint effort of the United States and the United Kingdom, will establish the goals which must be met if Europe is to be brought back to its feet...

Obviously the American agency will underwrite the gap between the European agency and the American agency. The American agency can itself produce, until the European agency can be again back on their feet...

Finally, there is FACTOR. Congress if it were to succeed, the program would be a long and pinching. Moreover, Congress has never grasped the enormous economic and social problems which European exercises on the eastern European economies it will be hard enough in any event to persuade Congress to face the facts of our situation...

At this point, war veteran Knowland of California tried to get the floor for a collection of "Delaware." He offered an amendment that housing controls be continued until December with the Office of Housing Administration...

Behind this move is the fact that at present the Housing Administration is in a predicament. It is unable to build and allocate them to veterans' housing...

In the secret conference, Rep. Jesse Woolcott of Michigan, long close to the big real estate interests, knocked out the work of his big Republican from California...

At the first meeting of the conference, Woolcott passed the word to the members of the conference to begin their housing control. He turned inquiringly to Senator Bayne of Delaware...

Discussion has been held and forth for some days since, with Democrats Sparkman of Alabama and Taylor of Idaho, trying to pull the wool over the eyes of the public...

Lynching Is Still Indefensible

THE time is past when even a Clagburn would defend lynching. The fashion now is to condemn it, with reservations. One of these (in which we concur) is that lynching is a local problem...

The Buddy Bush case in North Carolina did involve a charge of attempted rape, although legally it was a flimsy one. If all the evidence against him is accepted at face value it proves only that he chased the woman but never got close enough to her to recognize him...

Rape, of course, is as brutal and indefensible a crime as lynching, and it is perhaps no accident that the papers have been full of accounts of both lately. The sequence, however, would hardly support the argument that lynchings serve as a deterrent to rape...

The point is that in neither of these cases was there any reason to believe that the accused would not be brought to trial and punished, probably by death, if found guilty. The anti-rape laws are on the books, and they are enforced. The anti-lynching laws are also on the books, but they rarely produce concrete results in the South.

The attempt to obscure the South's failure to protect its citizens against lynchings by decrying rape is completely illogical. Rape is indefensible, and so regarded by the Southeners. Lynching is indefensible, but Mr. Redden's oration in Congress indicates that some Southerners in responsible positions are still in there trying.

The Great State Of Carolina

ONE of the minor annoyances attendant to living in one of the nation's three sets of twin-named states is the confusion engendered thereby in the provincial mind...

approved by The Charleston News & Courier (a difficult feat, of course, but a specialty of our distinguished contemporary) and has since been solemnly debated here by a newspaper of Asheville, North Carolina, The Citizen. There are valid objections to the merger, we suppose, but to the great majority of the nation's songwriters, radio comedians, book-reviewers, and editors...

The course record for confusion, we believe, has just been established by Mr. Marquis Childs, the lawyer-author. In a review of Nine Young Men published in The New York Times Book Review, Mr. Ernst managed to make the transition from South to North Carolina in a single paragraph...

Proposed lifts in State and local taxes may boost the cocktail cost in some parts to 75 cents, once the price of an evening's entertainment including drinks and a psycho-analysis by the bartender.

This, we believe, is a classic example, for Mr. Ernst not only managed to make the switch from South to North Carolina in adjacent sentences, but went right on to lump both together under the general heading of Carolina. Thus South Carolina, the state in the union without a divorce law, is confused with North Carolina, which maintains a thriving and scandalous divorce mill. And both states are branded as "moral"!

It is what he knows that worries the office pessimist. To face the future unafraid, says the O. P., it is necessary to face it unprepared.

In the 14 years he has been in this country we have never heard Doc Einstein on the really hard ones, like equalizing a freight rate to the satisfaction of all concerned.

A mass demonstration opens a campaign of British spinners for pensions when they are 65, at which time it is assumed a girl is ready to turn in her hunting license.

The old song didn't say how Rufus Rastus Johnson Brown came out with the landlady. At least that was spared this awful feeling of having the rent money and no flat.

Irish Headaches: It is sometimes said among diplomats that relations between Ireland and the USA are so sabourous that the only job of the American Minister to Ireland is to attend the Dublin horse show and help friends get sweat-soaked tickets. This, of course, is a slight exaggeration.

But the other day, delightful Mrs. George Garret, wife of the newly appointed Minister to Ireland was compared to a friend about the headaches involved in becoming hostess of the American legation in Dublin.

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