THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1948

Plight Of The Municipalities

Pugnt Of The Municipality in the North Carolina scheme of things is not a very happy one. When our State Constitution was drawn up, cities as we know them simply didn't exist, and our whole fabric of government is wore around the State and County Governments. What legal rights cities do have are largely the result of spasmodic, and sometimes back-handed, recognition by the Legislature. The growth and development of our N. C. cities has brought about many new problems that are difficult, and costly, to solve. When many people live logether in a small arga the cost of their public services — health preservation, fire and police protection, garbage and sewage disposal, and the like — soar rapidly, so that the city weller pays a disproportional of the city weller pays and substitution of living in the city.

mium for the dublous distinction or or one in the city.

The State Government has pre-empted for its own uses many of the biggest sources of revenue such as the sales tax, income tax, gasoline levy, and privilege licenses, all of which are paid predominantly by city dwellers who do not receive their share of the benefit. (For instance, more than 60 per cent of gasoline revenue comes from auto travel within city limits, yet law from the Bighway Commission's fat pocket-book.)

DOOL.)
In addition, the city dweller has to pay his share, and a large one it is, of the costs of his County Government, and once again se often comes out on the short end of the rervices. In Mecklenburg County, simost to per cent of the taxable property I is settling the city of Charlotte. Yet Charlot-

teans receive no benefit whatsoever from such exclusively County services as the County Folice Department, the Health Department, the Parm Agent's office, and others)

of the County Folice Department, the Health Department, the Parm Agent's office, and others of the County Folice Or triang costs when all labor and materials are going up and up and up, the cities of North Carolina find themselves faced with the problem of finding revenue to keep up their services and to maintain their streets, schools, parks, water and sewage systems, fire departments, Deposite departments. Their property taxes, in most cases, are already discouragingly high; and the thought of tampering with such "nitualsnee taxes" as levies on hold rooms, pay rolls, tobacco, incomes and the This was the problem that Charlottes City Manager Henry Yancey laid before the Committee of One Hundred in Winston-Balem the other night. Mr. Yancey suggested that the "predominantly rural" Legalisture needed better urban representation, and that the State should leave to the clites such revenues as business privilege licenses. He also recommended a farmore liberal refund to cities of the both of which are pald largely by city dwellers.

The Charlotte officials has long been one of the most vocal critics of the present system; the control of the most vocal critics of the present system; but, being a practical man, he knows that the job shead is a long and difficult to the clite will come into their own.

A Service To The Community

THERE are two prevailing conceptions concerning the part of a public library in the life of a community. They are (1) that a library serves to entertain the public and (2) that the library seeks to serve

the public.

Fortunately for Charlotte, Director Hort
Salvin of the Public Library of Charlotte
and Mecklenburg County is operating
charlotte's Central Library on Tryon Street
and the branch libraries throughout the
tity and county with the latter conception
a, mind

To Mr. Galvin and his staff service to

in aind.

To Mr. Galvin and his staff service to the community means more than the provision of week-and reading. Charlotte's library seeks to carry out its conception of service to the community in many ways. It is a courteous and informed source of facels and figures for the buy elitzen who has no research material on hand.

The past twelve months, accordent to the facel year 1947-49, the library's information and Research Division answered 31,030 reference questions.

Another important educational service performed by the library was the distribution of educational films throughout the county. These films educate graphically, thus reaching a less literate audience which might not be served by the library's book educational films totaked 282,194-and the films shown ranged from health instruction to lessons in a formic energy. Compare the number of served by these films with the number of served by these films with the number of service of their obvious educational books provided by the library (62, 920). The immense value of the films is evident. It is because of their obvious educational value that Mr. Galvin his made the Charlotte Public Library first a pioneer eation field.

A new service of the library — a record library—promises to become as popular and

A new service of the library — a record plans for the library—promises to become as popular and of the same.

year old, the record library Less than a year old, the record library now consists for the most part of symphony and light classic records, but its future is bright. When the library purchases a recording machine the potential value of the record library sa an historical treasure chest will be more evident. Recordings of local incidents of historic interest will be made and filed in the library. Local musical groups may also be recorded.

These age hut these of the many assistance of the many and the most of the many and the many and the most of the many and the most of the many and the

historic interest will be made and filled in the library. Local musical groups may also be recorded.

These are but three of the many services of the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, but these three alone indicate the tremendous value to the community of an active library.

It is unfortunate that the development of a library equal to that of other cities of a library equal to that of other cities of a library equal to that of other cities of a library expended low in many divisions of service, but the surver also pointed to the cause of this position — insufficient funds.

Though an increased appropriation for the library is still a definite need, the budget will be boosted to no small extent by revenue from Alcoholic Beverage Control sources. If liquor stores in Charlotte have served no other purpose, they are valuable to the community for the free profit which will be funneled into the public library to meet long-felt needs.

But the public library to meet long-felt needs are the support of the control library of the central library (files, furniture, etc.), expansion of neighborhood service to relieve pressure on the Tryon Street center, and the establishment of a small fleet of book-mobiles for expanded rural service.

The library's accomplishments over the future seem to promise more of the same.

We May Lose A Congressman

NORTH CAROLINA may lose one of its twelve seats in Congress if present population trends continue. This is not due to a loss of population in the state but to larger gains in some other states, notably California.

An estimate prepared by the authorita-tive Congressional Quarterly shows that seven states will gain Congressional seats and twelve will lose under the method of equal apportionment if the 1950 nose-count bears out the Cansus Bureaus 1948 provisional estimate of state population.

provisional estimate of state population. California will gain seven seats, largest of any state, and New York will lose two places. This would give California 30 easts and third place among all the states in representation. Pennsylvania, scheduled to lose a seat, would continue in second place with 32 seats, and New York's 43 would continue as the largest delegation in the House.

Mouse. Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Miastasippi and Tennessee are the other Southern states to lose one seat each. These states together with North Carolina are represented generally by Democrats and that side of the House likely would feel the loss of seven members at party roll call. Onco. 10° seven members at party roll call. Yes and the state of the House likely would reel the loss of seven members at party roll call. Yes and Pennsylvania would be one each for Colorado, Massouri and Okiahoma. Colorado, Missouri and Oklahoma,

Sharing in gains along with California ould be Florida, Indians, Michigan, Ore-on, Texas and Washington, all except Cal-

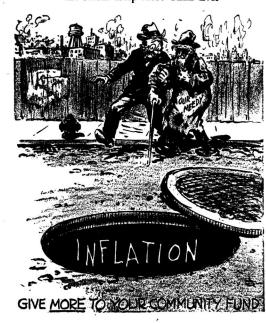
Gressman

Ifornia picking up one Congressman each.
Congressional Quarterity says:

Under terms of the Automatic Re-Apportionment Act, the President will prepare a table of apportionment of Representatives at table of apportionment act which would not seen in January, 1897. Congress could pass an apportionment act which would not lover the apportionment act which would not not seen a possible of the control o

There is a restaurant in Utopia where the diner is provided with a hammer and a nail. With this he nails down to the table top that little paper butter dish to prevent it from sliding when he attempts to take a bit of butter of it with his knife.—Jackson (Miss.) Dally News.

He Needs Help More Than Ever



What People Are Thinking

Housing And Price Controls

By ELMO ROPES

NEW YORK

ANY resemblance between this year's Presidential
campaign and the problems worrying the American
people is purely coincidential. This is a curious,
therefore is the coincidential. This is a curious,
Nowhere is the clinical answer of the campaign of the coincidential of the coin

something about. The latest "Fortune" survey found that the largest single group of voters fawe some kind of With which of these statements do you agree! I. It is better to let the laws of supply and demand take care of prices; or 2. The Government should do tem of price controls; or 3. The Government should set up a price control system of some kind.



JT 18 probable that both Mr. Truman and Mr. Dewey realize this cleavage of American options of the property of

	Total
	Voters
	C.
o Government aid	22.5
lovernment financing	39.5
ctual Government building	27.9
express no opinion	10.1
The largest single group of voters favor	10.1
ind of program such as was put forth in the	some
llender-Wagner low cost housing bill, which	1811-
he Senate (even though Taft himself later	passed
gainst (t) but did not make mimself later	turned
gainst it) but did not even come up for a	vote in
he House of Representatives. But perhaps th	e most
ignificant fact is that there are more vote	rs who
ant to see the Government directly enter the	build-
ng field and construct its own low cost dw	vellings

Marquis Childs

Dismay In Court

the elipidetal questions and the desired to the ground to layer a judge who thind beyond the judicial in his person multions. We propose the property, perm my name to be used for the forms my name to be used for the forms the form of political combinations? If do can I remain at all times an other control of the combination of the property of the estimation of the depth of the estimation in you pipe and smake them and tell me office? Put these things in you pipe and smake them and tell manne to be used. But operate manne to be used. But on the manner to be used. But on the manner to be used. But on the manner to be used. But of the manner to be used. But of

Joseph Alsop

Uneasy Line-Up

Newspapers Put Soft Light On Dewey ELECTION year always brings grey hairs and stomach unders to newspaper columnists. It is a season when, no mater what you say, one side or the other jumps on you; when ecliors get sore, blue-pencil columns or throw you out of the paper. It also happens that I like Dewey. (Most product of the paper.)

Dewoy Sure To Win
THERE are two reasons for this:
1. About 75 per cent of the newspapers have announced

The account is per cents of the newspapers have announced as a Dewey is certain to win, and it's only natural to want to be on the aide of the winner.

My own feelings about Dewey have been a matter of public record for a long time. As early as October 1946, when most Republicans were claiming be could never overcome the OOP jinx of having been defeated once, I categori-cally predicted that he would be the next Republican nominee. The country of the co

I also predicted in May 1948 that Harry Truman would not carry one state north of the Mason-Dixon line and

Truman's Uphill Fight

NEVERTHELESS. I can't help but admire the spunky upMill fight Truman is putting up; and I can't help but think
also that the American public has a right to know the issues
on the Republican side much more fully than it is getting