

19th Anniversary Year

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GOOD USE FOR EASY MONEY

MAYOR BAXTER'S proposal that plans be made now to take advantage of probable funds for Federal low-rent housing projects is well-timed, it is at least timely. If Uncle Sam wants to pass around the sweetening...

There are, to be sure, compelling reasons why the Federal Government should not assume additional large financial commitments, however desirable in themselves, at this time.

It is, as we see it, a policy of the shrewdest and most sagacious policy to commit the Treasury to large expenditures for purposes which, however desirable in themselves, are not indispensable to the preservation of the nation.

THE building industry has done a good job of catching up on the demand for

OUR MENTAL HOSPITALS

ONE hundred years ago this month the General Assembly of North Carolina was asked to provide \$100,000 for the erection of a State hospital for the mentally sick. The request was defeated by a large majority.

North Carolina had no hospital for the mentally ill; no one knows how much longer it would have been without one after that day in 1948 if it had not been for the rescue of a woman named Dorothy Dix.

But, through the work of Miss Dix—who managed to get the bill reconsidered—the General Assembly took a second vote and passed the appropriation bill by 91 to ten.

Friday the North Carolina Psychiatric Hospital was established. Miss Dix herself was selected a site for the institution and she chose a large hill southwest of Raleigh. When the hospital was completed, it was named, for her grandfather, Dix Hill.

Today, the North Carolina Psychiatric Hospital is one of the best in the South. It has a staff of 100 and a capacity for 100 patients. It is a model of what a mental hospital should be.

Too often this is the case. Not always, but too often. We will not see for ourselves; we leave it to others to tell us of our faults. Last week, however, a State agency—the North Carolina Psychiatric Hospital—indicated that it had seen that there is still much room for improvement in North Carolina's mental hospital system.

THE GRASS LOOKS GREENER

The South will come into its own when its fields are green in winter. Henry Grady.

IN THE time of Henry Grady, a Southern farmer who was ahead of his time in politics as well as in agriculture, the South was a land of hope. There is no reason to believe that it has been any other since. It has been a land of hope, a land of promise, a land of opportunity. It has been a land of hope, a land of promise, a land of opportunity.

On Mason Farm, a Federal Soil Conservation Service nursery near Chapel Hill, agriculture scientists have been working to bring about the condition called for by Grady. And the head of the Soil Conservation Service, Dr. Hugh H. Bennett, says they have succeeded.

The miracle has been passed. Sutter's Grass (Kentucky 31), a grass found on the Kentucky farm of a man named Sutter, has brought the South back to the green. It is the grass that Henry Grady dreamed of. It is the grass that Henry Grady dreamed of.

The doubters will doubt, of course; the primitives who have adopted modern tractors and modern ideas will hesitate. They will remind us of the other grasses and leguminous crops that have been a long time in coming. But this is a grass that is different. It is a grass that is different.

middle and upper income housing since the war. But the short return on the investment in low income housing has scared private builders away from this field. As the Mayor points out, some 2,000 white housing units have been going up each year in Charlotte, in comparison with a negligible amount of Negro housing units.

The success of any other clearance program depends on the availability of other housing for families displaced from their old dwellings. Last summer, during the polo scare, the City decided to enforce its long standing anti clearance ordinance. It soon became apparent that they simply can't tear down houses if it means putting people out on the street.

Thus, some kind of assistance in providing low-income housing, whatever form it takes, is of extreme importance to Charlotte, and to the South generally. And the sooner plans are made to take advantage of such help, the farther along we will be in our efforts to (1) improve the living standards of our Negro population, and (2) remove the alibi blight from our cities.

If the Federal grants are to be handed out, it will be to know ahead of time how much money is available. If the Federal Government is determined to let its appetite rather than its digestion determine its diet, we suppose that it becomes the duty of the people everywhere to try for a place at the table.

It asked for \$30,383,725 to bring about this improvement. The improvement is needed. It is not as often as it was 100 years ago that we find a family burdened with the support of a mentally sick person, but too often we do.

Today, however, it is a different problem. Most of the state's mentally sick are in hospitals, but these hospitals are inadequate. They are lacking in personnel, in equipment and in space.

At State Hospital in Raleigh—the hospitals at Dix are thought for \$400,000 is needed to renovate the main building. Almost that much—\$350,000—is needed for a recreation, occupational therapy and industry building. A cafeteria is needed, too, in addition to other buildings on the grounds.

At Morganton money is needed for fireproofing, for renovations and for farm buildings. At the State Hospital at Goldsboro an addition to the building for the originally insane is urgently needed; a farm colony building is needed; farm equipment is needed.

It's the same story at Owell Training School where mentally ill children are kept. At Camp Butler, the newest addition to North Carolina's growing but still inadequate facilities for the mentally sick, there is a need for a supplement to the 1947 appropriation. A hospital admission and treatment center asked for \$300,000 was not made possible for many persons to be given early treatment and returned to normal life without entering one of the other State institutions.

Other needs could be cited. A dozen ways to spend \$30,383,725 could be listed. But we are sure that North Carolina's legislators of 1948 are better informed than the men who made up the General Assembly 100 years ago.

But Sutter's Grass has been proved adaptable. Dr. Bennett says it has grown well in 600 counties in the Southeastern States. And nowhere, probably, is a year-round grass more needed than in the Southeastern States. It is a grass that is different. It is a grass that is different.

Most of the milk you drink comes from North Carolina dairies, but, according to the 1948 census of Agriculture, 39 of 100 T-H Heel farmers do not own cows.

In addition to cutting down cows, Sutter's Grass will remedy the livestock imbalance. Since cattle can eat Sutter's Grass for twelve months out of each year's growth, it will help to reduce the initial expense of silos and moving machines. The maintenance of a haystack, since no haystack will be needed, will not be a problem.

Another example of the New Agriculture building a new and more prosperous South.



The President Of The United States

The Toughest Job In The World

(From The St. Louis Globe-Democrat) THE election of a President focuses attention again on the most important administrative post in this nation and in the world. It emphasizes anew the urgent necessity for reorganizing executive functions of the President and his Cabinet. The White House job is not only the biggest that government has to offer, but its demand is so tremendous no man can possibly handle it properly under present methods.

The administrative branch of national government was designed for an America in study infancy. As the executive's tasks piled up and multiplied with the country's growth to economic and political world power, makeshifts of administration were adopted in fit and fobbed ways that defied good administration.

That is why Congress directed a 15-month study and provided a supporting fund of \$700,000 to determine what can be done to streamline the executive branch of our Government. Former President Herbert Hoover heads this 12-member commission and it is expected to make its report soon after the election. It will be a far-reaching document and should contain the blueprint for an administrative branch that can do its job efficiently and perhaps more economically.

No change in Washington government is more deeply needed. If a new administrative system is not set up, Federal chaos will continue to mount to grotesque proportions. It is already a sad commentary on the performance of a President now requires a superman, and our democratic system is not molded to produce a superman. The White House job is the toughest job in the world. It is the toughest job in the world.

The mental demand upon the President is monstrous. He must be a man of broad vision and far-reaching ideas. He must be a man of broad vision and far-reaching ideas. He must be a man of broad vision and far-reaching ideas.

ALl this brings the President the nominal remuneration of \$70,000 annually, a salary set in 1909. Now that Federal pay is not immune to income taxes, the White House doesn't look like a particularly attractive job for his own and family needs. He can save nothing for the future. He can't even get a pension. He can't even get a pension. He can't even get a pension.

Things might be worse. Suppose you were a shy introvert, stopped by a traffic jam, and your horn stuck. And your car left you for repairs in a remote spot. You would feel that the man in the moon was never as interesting as the gal in the sun—Gwendolyn (Miss) Weikly.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

CONGRESSMAN J. "I refuse to testify" Thomas said to the members of the House on Tuesday. He said he would not testify. He said he would not testify. He said he would not testify.

THE closed shop, banned under the Taft-Hartley Act, will be restored. The closed shop, banned under the Taft-Hartley Act, will be restored. The closed shop, banned under the Taft-Hartley Act, will be restored.

Anti-John L. Lewis THERE will be some restrictions on labor, yet to be worked out. There will be some restrictions on labor, yet to be worked out. There will be some restrictions on labor, yet to be worked out.

Timid Judge THE President is opposed to the injunction procedure of stopping strikes. The President is opposed to the injunction procedure of stopping strikes. The President is opposed to the injunction procedure of stopping strikes.

THE evidence grows that shift in Russian foreign policy is taking place. While it is not clear whether there is more than a change of strategy, it is, nevertheless, important. The evidence grows that shift in Russian foreign policy is taking place.

THE bosses in the Kremlin have made one crushing mistake. They have made one crushing mistake. They have made one crushing mistake.

THE blockade of Berlin was intended to force the Western allies out of the city. The blockade of Berlin was intended to force the Western allies out of the city. The blockade of Berlin was intended to force the Western allies out of the city.

THE "peace" is wonderful! It is the new line. One of the loudest echoes has been in the hands of the German people. The "peace" is wonderful! It is the new line.

Joseph & Stewart Also

Weapon's Weakness

THE building industry has done a good job of catching up on the demand for. THE building industry has done a good job of catching up on the demand for.

TOWARD the end of last month J. Marshall Sokolovsky, Russian Communist Party leader, wrote an interesting letter through the secret channels which connect the Communist Party with the German Communists. What makes the letter interesting is that it is a letter from a Communist Party leader to a Communist Party leader.

THE letter, whose contents are known to the American Government, was of course written in the tone of respectfulness which would be expected of a Communist Party leader. The letter, whose contents are known to the American Government, was of course written in the tone of respectfulness which would be expected of a Communist Party leader.

THE People's Platform is available to any reader who desires to contribute. The People's Platform is available to any reader who desires to contribute. The People's Platform is available to any reader who desires to contribute.

Quote, Unquote WE wonder if our city authorities ever considered putting stoppers on our downtown sidewalks. WE wonder if our city authorities ever considered putting stoppers on our downtown sidewalks.

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