

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1948

Rent 'Figment Of Imagination'

WE HAVE been waiting for someons to supply the right definition of the housing riddle and the National Apartment Owners Association comes through with the explanation that the housing shortage is a "fignent of the imagination." There-fore, the NAOA argues logically, rent con-trol should come off immediately. The shortage then would vanish quickly and it follows logically that rents would come to come of the companion of the companion of the tool of the companion of the companion of the companion of the company figures for your imagination?

down. Is that all clear or is the rent cut one too many figments for your imagination? The man who is looking frantically for a room, a house, or an apartment, and the citizen who is paying a fancy price for quarters in a plane box probably are too far gone in fanisary to find any comfort or sense in NAOA's theory that the housing shortage is a myth. However, landlords heretofore have been noted for their realism and we should not lightly damiss their diagnosts of our housing misery as an inlampined, an arbitrary notion. Let's see how their theory works out. It is explained to Congress in a statement by one John W. Scöville, identified as a "nationally known consulting economist." Says Mr. Scoville:

produce social, moral, economic and po-nitical disturbances that would rock the nation. Wust the thought of the eviction riots and the demonstrations of the home-less makes us wonder why landlords don't support rent controls for their own protec-tion.

But that's beside the point. The question is, would the big doubling up end the housing shortage in a matter of a few months, as Consuling Economis Scoville figment of the imagination when he as-sumes that there are enough closets, thick-en coops and tents to house the people who can't pay the uncontrolled rent gouge?

sumes that there are enough closets, chicken coops and tents to house the people who can't pay the uncontrolled rent gouge? Hann't he forgotten that our population has risen from 122 million to more than 144 million since 1300 and it will take the construction industry years to make up for the lag in apartment and home building during the depression at the control abandoment would be to run the price of a piano box out of sight. This brings us to the point that'the NAOA-Scoville theory is based on a figment of the imagination, which is the notion that there was an actual surplus of housing during the depression, when rents were too low. It took the New Deal and a vations to get us out of the old illusion that doubling up was the natural order of things. It will cost much more if we try it again. If the landlords could quit their inflation dreaming, they would drop their demand that rent control be abandoned and insist on a rational, equitable, comprehensive inflation control system.

Steps For The Public Health

Steps For The Public

HOURING of swine in Mecklenburg

County has become a problem of publis concern and something must be done
about it. An increase in the hop population hereabouts has been stimulated by the
same conditions that produced a large rise
in Mecklenburg's human population, resulting in overcowding of available housing
facilities, inflated costs, etc.

In the case of the swine, we are apt to
get housing relief before there is much of
etc. and the state of the state of
the clitters as a result of the action of
the clitters as a result of the action of
the clounty Board of Health, which this
week adopted new standards for hop pens
and hog lots.

The determining factor in this instance is
sanitation and the public health, which
has been leopardized by the way some commercial operators have been maintaining
establishments for swine in the marketing
and slaughtering business. Public health
demands even more attention to improving
and slaughtering business. Public health
demands even more attention to improving
authorities, City Manager Yanevy and Mayor Baxter have been pointing out, but the
City Council and owners of sluid welvilings authorities, City Manager Yancey and Mayor Baxter have been pointing out, but the
City Council and owners of slum dwellings
seem remarkably slow to get this point.
Dr. E. H. Hand, County Health Officer,
and the board advanced the public welfare in other ways besides setting new
standards for the care of swine. The Board

struck a blow at the unpardonable prac-tice of selling meat from caives which are too young for slaughter, and it set up a regulation against the criminal practice of smuggling meat which has been condemned in Mecklenburg County as unfit for human consumption to surrounding communities that do not have this protection against greedy, unconscionable meat peddiers. In the same amendment, the Board tightened up the system for uniform inspection of meat and sea-food establishments.

All this represented a good day's work for the Board but it went on to do somefor the Board but it went on to do some-thing about improving the sanitary state of human beings. It did that with amend-ments covering garbage disposal, alloca-tion and maintenance of outside tollets. Action along this line had been made imper-ative by the shocking conditions recently uncovered in Furr Town.

uncovered in Furr Town.

Citizens of Charlotte and Mecklenburg
owe a vote of thanks to the County and
City health authorities for the steps they
are taking for broader and more effective
sanitary regulations. However, the establishment of adequate laws is only a part of
the probliem. The task of enforcement is
the larger and the long-term part of the
public health lasue, and it demands much
more attention from the city Council, the
County Commissioners and the public.

Lost Riches In Carolina Clay

A LTHOUGH the hills and flatiands of A the Tar Heel State are covered with white clays used in manufacturing the finest tableware of our time, the ceramics industry in in this state is confined to bricks, sewer pipes, and "roadside pottery."

Why do North Carolina industrialists sit back and watch one of the state's most valuable natural resources being shipped out of the state only to come back later— at a price—in the form of tiles, bricks, or

potery?

And how much longer will the young men who major in ceramics at the N. C. State's College engineering school have to leave their native state to find employment in their chosen profession?

ment in their chosen profession?

John W. Fox, industrial promoter of the

Duke Power Co., has the answer. After 35

years as an industrial engineer with Duke,

this 76-year-old native of Sydney, Austra
lia knows the industrial Piedmoni intimately. All through the years, he has

studied ceramics and tried to talk textile

and other moneyed men of industry to set

of tablewars, errigerator enamels, insula
tors, tiles or sven ceramic novelties.

Any one of these products made from the

Any one of these products made from the solid underfoot could make a man rich. If

a New Jersey chinaware manufacturer can sell \$5,000,000 worth of crockery per year—plates and dishes made with Carolina and Georgia Kaolins (white clays)—a local manufacturer could do even better. His raw material would be almost in the back-yard. Local interests hesitate to invest in a business they know nothing about, forgetting that modern industry was founded the substance of the second of the second

The N. C. Employment Security Commission Quarterly lists inneteen separate companies in North Carolina who mine and ahip out of the state the materials used in the manufacture of ceramics.

The challenge to the initiative and ingenuity of North Carolina promoters and investors is apparent.

From The St. Louis Post-Dispatch Mr. Hoover Is Corrected

If THEY are motivated by anything other than sheer political opportunism, the Congressmen who are so eager to whittle should be described by an appropriation should be described by a superposition of the International Bank A study copy in the Internati

might be as bad as sending none at all.

The slashers have places great reliance
on former President Herbert Hoover's
statement that Canada and Latin America
can extend \$3,00,00,000 in credits (largely
for foodstuffs to Europe in the next year
and a quarter. This amount seemed incredible on its face—especially since Mr.
Hoover has been wrong in the past on the
ability of South America to help Europa.

Now comes the careful calculation of the International Bank's experts to the effect that Canadian and Latin American aid cannot reasonably be expected to run to more than \$500,000,000. Mr. Hoover seems to have overshot the mark by almost \$3,-000,000,000, or 600 per cent.

000,000,000, or 600 per cent.

It is grossly unfair to confuse the American people with such mathematical mumbo-lumbo. The cost of rehabilitation cannot be reduced by penciling a few hasten on the reduced by penciling a few hasten with the second perfect much effort on the part of European and American experts, the President and the Secretary of State felt compelled to ask for \$8.000,000.000. Now comes President Merclicy of the International Bank to say that the actual need probably will run closer to \$7.000,000,000.

That is not pin money, but neither are European recovery and world peace just trifles to be haggled over.

'I Brought Something Along To Sit Down On'



People's Platform

Burkholder And The New Deal

Editors, The News:

N. ANSWER, upon far. Borrer Wilmant's article of N. Answer and S. Answer and S.

-P. C. BURKHOLDER.

Mars Hill Sets Safety Pace

Association to the Court of the

(NOTE: Congratulations to Mars Hill, shame on Charlotte—Eds., THE NEWS).

Key To Many Problems

Eduors, The News:

An an interest and favorable consideration

I have read with interest and favorable consideration

be Circuitson Selected from the Circuitson Selecte Mentice

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therein apply not only to the problem of delinquience,
but to many problems of our day, we have shumned

reality for the more pleasant course of fantage.

reality for the more pleasant course of fantasey.

Our redemption lies not in ensoring the thoughts and ideals which are considered to be the crus of problem with which we are confronted. All things must necessarily stem from a given source, and have some provocation. It would follow that if we are to the problem of re-decision of the problem of the

CHARLOTTE

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications possible, and on only one side of the paper. Libel and obscently will be deleted—otherwise anything ones. Each letter must be signed although. In exceptional cases and spon sequent, Tax News.

Marquis Childs

Our Oil Lifeline

WASHINGTON

NOTHING illustrates so well the
complexity of our technical
civilization as the current oilcivilization as the current oilcivilization as the current oilcivilization as the current oilcivilization as the source in the Southwest, life itself depends in the
reveded cities of the Northeast.

It is the source in the Southwest, life itself depends in the
end of so thin a thread, it is
the end of so thin a thread, it is
the end of so thin a thread, it is
the side that the selfheads of the big oil companies with
the nightmare of breakfown.

The United States today is comperson for 186 is estimated at 85
gallons. The prewar average was
an always, or course, the political reaction is swift. Congressmen from Northeast states are getconstituents who are pinched by
the scarcity.

One result is a demand they
constituents who are pinched by
the scarcity.

One result is a demand to
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ican supply. 1947, total production in the wax 5.500.000 barrels a day;

Samuel Grafton

The Major Issue

up to take his bow.

The great question therefore is:
If, and when, the recession arpublic opinion?

If might send us back toward
massive planning, on the Roceaville scale. But without greatly anatine the issue, and drive it home,
rather doubt it. It seems to me
much more likely that public opinrather doubt it. It seems to me
much more likely that public opinstrather doubt it. It seems to me
much more likely that public opinrather doubt it. It seems to me
much more likely that public opinstrate of the seems to me
much more likely that the strange
for somebody with a tough expresson, to lead it out of the dark
will look around for a papa,
for somebody with a tough expresmontaing convention, I think it will
atrongly affect it, and increase the
with a very clear record on domestic lauses, will get the prize.

Such a character, mystically

Drew Pearson's: Senator Thomas Record In Stock Market

the may surmed you will find that during most of Senator tool think you will find that during most of Senator toomas career in the U.S. Senate he has been active in e stock market and has not hesitated to use his position trust to influence the market. I suggest that first you ok into 128 shares of Cities Service stock held by the Senator ound 1928.

Following this, I suggest that you examine the Senator.

During the Summer of 1932 you will find that Thomas as active in the silver market, in fact had bought a constant of the silver market, in fact had bought a constant of the silver market, in fact had bought a constant of the silver market in fact had bought a constant of the silver market of the silver market of the silver of the silver

Father Coughlin's Adviser

COING back to 1923, 1934 and 1925. I believe you will find
that at about the time Sensor Thomas was speculating
in silver, he was also making specches calculated to increase
of Senator Key Plimans silver bloc, and also described him-self as "silver adviser to Father Coughlin," in attacking the
Pederal Roserva Act. Coughlin ser turned not to be the
the United States.

The Sensor Sensor

DREW PEARSON.