

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1948

Unfair To City Taxpayers

DURING the past few weeks, high level officials of the City and County Governments have been arguing the question of financial responsibility for charity hospitalization. And while the words have been flying back and forth across Alexander St., the Institute of Charities has been quietly probing the intricate relations between City and County in an effort to report on duplication and overlapping, thereby saving money for the taxpayers and improving the efficiency of government here.

We certainly don't presume to chart a course for Albert Coates and his research staff. But the argument between City Manager Henry Yancey and County Chairman S. Y. McAllen is such a vivid instance of "the tall wagging the dog," and of such urgency, that it needs settling without further delay so that Memorial Hospital can get out from behind the financial eight-ball and balance its budget.

The estimated charity hospitalization outlay for the present fiscal year will run to \$80,000. Of this total, the City will pay \$52,000 and the County will pay \$28,000. The division is an involved affair. The County Government assumes all the cost for residents who live outside the city limits; the cost of those who live inside the city limits is shared, 65 per cent borne by the City Government and 35 per cent by the County Government.

Johnson's Blow At ABC System

STATE TREASURER Charles M. Johnson has picked up the dry banner in an effort to put more ginger in his campaign for the Democratic nomination for Governor.

This election-year revival for the prohibition movement in North Carolina comes with the announcement that he has promoted the Church League Inc. to recommend a state-wide liquor referendum if he is elected Governor. Mr. Johnson also informs the dry that he favors abolition of the so-called "gag" rule in the General Assembly.

Prohibitionists contend that the rule in the lower House of the Assembly which requires a two-thirds vote to revive bills that have been rejected by the House is not a report, was designed to block legislation for a state-wide vote on liquor. In pledging himself to recommend repeal of that rule, Mr. Johnson makes a statement which illuminates the contradictory position he has assumed in supporting the state-wide liquor referendum.

"I am opposed to any rule, by whatever name called, which would preclude the free expression of the people's will," Mr. Johnson asserts.

If the candidate wants to appear as entirely consistent and sincere in advocacy of the principle which he enunciates so fully, he should add that the state-wide referendum will defeat the purposes of popular government in many North Carolina communities. It would enable the dry

Mecklenburg County, \$141,000,000 or 77 per cent lie within the city limits of Charlotte. Since the County tax apportionment to the city as well as outside, city residents thus pay 77 per cent of County taxes over and above paying the entire cost for operating the City Government. Thus, for charity patients who live in Charlotte, city residents pay the City's 65 per cent of the County's 35 per cent. For charity patients who live outside the city limits, city residents pay 77 per cent of the bill.

This arrangement, obviously, imposes a severe and unfair burden on city taxpayers. Charlotteans also residents of Mecklenburg County, and a charity patient from Charlotte is no different from the charity patient from Pineville, or Steel Creek, or Derita.

There is only one sensible answer—place charity hospitalization on a county-wide basis, and let the County Government assume the whole financial responsibility. That is the only way to equalize the burden on all the taxpayers frequently represent what part of Memorial's so-called "extra" services may properly be considered a public responsibility could then be worked out by government and County commissioners. Certainly, Government is not obligated to pay for the hospital's scientific, educational program, or its sociological work. But the out-patient clinics and the emergency room, for example, are community-wide benefit and a perhaps should be considered a public responsibility.

Johnson's Blow At ABC System

counties to impose their will on the cities and counties of the state which prefer legal control of liquor to a system that encourages bootlegging and its attendant evils.

The basic point, which both Mr. Johnson and the drys ignore, is that the state-wide referendum on this question works two ways and can't be employed as a democratic device. Prohibition would set a point quite clearly, however, if wet sentiment was predominant and there was a movement afoot to make the entire state wet and deprive dry communities of their own choice.

Mr. Johnson is a politician of enough experience to know that North Carolina's Alcoholic Beverage Control plan is the most effective and least expensive way to regulate, as well as the most practical and efficient. It permits our counties to have the bone-dry order or legal control at their option and makes provision whereby any county in the ABC stores may vote them out of existence.

As State Treasurer, Mr. Johnson knows better than most that loss of the ABC revenues called, which would preclude the free expression of the people's will," Mr. Johnson asserts.

Dewey's Brand Of 'Diplomacy'

GOW, THOMAS E. DEWEY OF New York is now wading his negotiations between the two nations, America and Russia, whose differences now have the world in a tailspin. There is little or no desire on either side for "arranging treaties." Indeed, the policies on both sides are not directed by diplomats but by military strategists whose every move is based on military force.

There is nothing in Mr. Dewey's remarks which would indicate that he wants the United States Government to employ the art of true diplomacy. Instead, there is reason to believe that his criticism was provoked by the fact that President Truman and Secretary Marshall did express the desire for a settlement in their recent calls for mobilization of American security resources. Mr. Dewey's forceful blast at the Truman policy as "weak and vacillating" is a well-timed warning from the Republican majority side that no such negotiations for peace are to be entertained.

Federated Nations

In a brief talk on nations and a world treaty by the Five Nations, Life magazine says: "... at any moment the death of nationalism and the unity of Western Europe may be an accomplished fact."

This salute to something new in the edge of the unprecedented, Europe's history no doubt says more than its writer intended. Europe sorely needs unity, and this first long step toward unity even in a loose federation may be the first step toward a dream of statesmen over a long past, a dream of men in our time like Briand and Churchill. Yet, while extreme, militant nationalism has brought many woes upon Europe, it has also brought the birth of a new nationalism as difficult to conceive as a nation without a center and a d without local governments.

'Going! Going!—'

WASHINGTON (AP)—The rising and falling tide of political fortune is the crop of Vice-presidential candidates that will be named by the bighted President Truman's prospects of re-election has withered a whole lot. Full of hope to pass a hopeful.

It is hard to realize that only a few short weeks ago the public opinion polls showed Truman's chances were better than even with all but one or two of the then available Republican candidates. Now, it is said in that dist and distant age, you could not swing a cat on the Senate floor without hitting a Vice-presidential candidate.

That is also true today. But now the hostilities are serious for the Republican nomination for Vice-President. In order to get a candidate for second place on the Democratic ticket, one cyclic re-nomination process will have to pass a draft act.



People's Platform Rule By Bosses And Minorities

CONWAY, S. C. Our newspapers and correspondents immediately began a ruthless campaign of castigation of Russia, Radio blasted bleeding Russia in British manner, without regard to truth or facts.

Now let us see where we are. The vice power which was our pet is now giving us a pain. The stonier bomb carrying it forward breaker. In other words, "The things that we reap are the fruit that we planted; they begin to turn us and we need."

We recall that prior to the beginning of the late war, when Germany was calling for the capitulation of Czechoslovakia, Russia wanted to go to the aid and assistance of that little country which France, jointly with Russia, had promised to protect. Russia stood ready, and so did France, to carry out the agreement. Great Britain opposed that and in so doing, she told France that she would have to fight alone. Then England offered to Hitler's little Czechoslovakia, but not only that but all the Russian Ukraine, Russia's bread-basket.

Did Great Britain show a tear for poor little Czechoslovakia? Not one. Now, it is awful to hear England mourn and lament concerning the fate of that little country.

America, do you know how far it is from the New River to Vladivostok? Have you counted the number of soldiers that Russia and her satellites can put in the field? Indeed Great Britain is our friend, but she similes that we are the one with a duty calling for bread. She is powerless, and will be so.

Yes, our military experts are doing all they can to report the ever tender of our people in order to get us ready to send our leaders and our legislators into passing the U.N.T. If this war hysteria keeps up, it will mean the end of the American people. Just suppose we kill twenty million more Russians, America, will that be something of which to be proud?

My health, as for me, is unbroken, and my nerves are superb. I shed a silent tear when I think of the plight of our leaders, nation and the awful loneliness that our own Franklin D. Roosevelt left us when he gave up his life.

Let us all forget the idea of going to war and let us all forget the fact that we are the one with a duty calling for bread. We are the one with a duty calling for bread. We are the one with a duty calling for bread. We are the one with a duty calling for bread.

Walace Pattern: II

THE pattern holds, whether for a Nenni or a Farlinger or a Wallace. He will always ally himself with a non-Communist liberal and the Communists leads the same old line. He will always ally himself with a non-Communist liberal and the Communists leads the same old line. He will always ally himself with a non-Communist liberal and the Communists leads the same old line.

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Sympathy For Russia

THE war news ended, England, Russia, Canada, and United States of America met at San Francisco, to form the United Nations. The United States, it was said, that confronted that assembly, the vice power. Russia alone, it was admitted, was not a member of the United States in the war power—Bis, The News.

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Presbyterian Holy Days

CHARLOTTE, N.C. Many people are asking what Presbyterians are doing during the Holy Days. The answer is simple: they are observing the Holy Days of the Presbyterian Church (Presbyterian Church in the United States) Directory for the Worship of God, chapter 11.

"There is no day under the gospel commanded to be kept holy except the Lord's Day, which is the Christian Sabbath."

And also, our belief in this regard is well expressed by a prominent Presbyterian minister (from Glasgow, N.C.):

"Every Sunday is intended to commemorate the resurrection of our Lord. Let every Sunday remind us of the resurrection."

—LUDIA M. ALEXANDER.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON I ASK you I gave the following broadcast short-essay translated into Italian to the Italian people:

"Ameh! Italiani! It seems only a very short time ago as I was traveling through Italy on the Friendship Train. I remember vividly the hosts of Italian friends who greeted me at the train. I remember the reception Premier De Gasperi gave us at the Campidoglio in Rome, and the railroad train crew that threatened to stop the train if we did not get out of the country before the Friendship Train beyond Bologna."

"And Gortiza, the Governor of Udine that was here still telling people over here about the beautiful folk songs and dances he arranged for us, and about the little boy that he prepared for us before the Friendship Train arrived. And I want to tell the children of Padua and Bologna and all the other cities that we have been showing America. They wanted to know how the Friendship Train brought to the train."

"Am! Gortiza, Well, there is one thing I haven't told Americans about Gortiza—namely, how hard I worked trying to learn a speech in Italian, and how sympathetic the young people in Gortiza were to our thoughts and deliver it."

"And thoughts and those of many other Americans have been with the Italian people since that time, especially so right now."

"We took the Italian film, 'Thanks America,' expressing the gratitude of the Italian people for the Friendship Train was shown before members of the American Cabinet, the Supreme Court, the Senate and House of Representatives—a stirring demonstration of Italian-American friendship."

"Your American friends have been thinking about you these days because we have been worried. We have been worried by disturbing reports that some of the things we fought for may now be forgotten."

"We think I can truly say because I know well the American soldier—that they were sincerely fighting a war to end war and preserve democracy. And many of you, though your pocket dictionary was on the other side, courageously helped them toward that goal."

Marquis Childs Number Two Nominees

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House has its candidates for the political gamut from A to Z. Vandenberg is the group unit; Lodge and Stansall, for example, have worked hard for a bi-partisan foreign policy platform. The House members who bighted President Truman's prospects of re-election has withered a whole lot. Full of hope to pass a hopeful.

It is hard to realize that only a few short weeks ago the public opinion polls showed Truman's chances were better than even with all but one or two of the then available Republican candidates. Now, it is said in that dist and distant age, you could not swing a cat on the Senate floor without hitting a Vice-presidential candidate.

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Joseph & Stewart Also

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Armistice Didn't Bring Peace

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America Has Its Faults

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