

100th Anniversary Year

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All Together In Clean-Up

THERE was but one dissenting voice raised at the City Council meeting Wednesday when, to the applause of citizens who packed the hearing room, immediate cleanup of Charlotte's standard Housing Ordinance was ordered.

That one protest was received in utter silence and choked off quickly, as if the speaker had been confounded by his own words.

"Times always going up," he complained. "New laws, new taxes. And... I think I'll sit down."

No one bothered to answer him and the incident merely was added to the list of points to the finality of Charlotte's decision to proceed with a program that will eliminate the disease-breeding, stench-producing conditions that have been uncovered in recent months by the News and the Chamber of Commerce and the City's inspectors.

The one vocal dissenter sat down because there simply is no argument against clean-up that now, at long last, has been initiated.

Charlotte is not placing new laws on the books. It merely is moving to obtain enforcement—and observance—of health and safety laws which have been ignored to the great detriment of the community. Filthy homes and streets in the form of ever-more costly community services to combat crime, disease and death.

Standard Housing Ordinance has been on the books three years. Effective date of enforcement originally was postponed because of wartime material and labor shortages. It was put off again because of postwar inflationary costs and continued scarcity of some items. Supplies now are available for a beginning in

compliance with the law and the costs of further delay are prohibitive.

An orderly system of enforcement is being developed by the City authorities. The rule is to clean up first, then to improve. Plans for which materials are not available. In line with this policy, the Council has provided that the chief building inspector give a violator ample opportunity to bring his properties up to standard before legal action is taken.

However, this system will not work unless the property owners co-operate to the limit with the enforcement agencies. Efforts to unnecessarily delay or defeat this clean-up in the slums inevitably will bring a quick public demand for more rigorous methods of enforcement.

It is also a fact that this system will not work unless the tenants are held rigidly accountable. Housing alone, and landlords, cannot clean up the slums. The people who live there have got to pitch in and help.

It is of the essence, in order to obtain maximum compliance with sanitary laws at the earliest possible date, it is essential that the corps of inspectors be expanded as requested by Dr. M. B. Bethel, chief of the school administration. A city agency force must be and how long it will have to operate depends on the citizens, individually and as a whole.

This is an enormous undertaking but it can be accomplished swiftly, efficiently and economically if each citizen recognizes his responsibility and cleans up his own premises. Thanks to the leadership provided by the City Health Officer, Roy Large, the Clean Business Club, Parent-Teacher Council, the Junior Women's Club, the Woman's Club, the American Association of University Women, the Charlotte Board of Realtors and the Chamber of Commerce, all who have enlisted in this campaign, we already have made a splendid beginning.

But there must be no let-down until the community-wide danger from filth and sloth is banished. The time for talk is past. The time for action is now.

'Low Political Expediency'

SENATOR STENNIS of Mississippi, leading off the filibuster of the Southern Democrats against the anti-poll tax bill, vented his low political expediency when he brought this measure before the Senate at the special session of Congress.

As the Mississippi points out, both the Truman Administration and the Republican Party are advancing this civil rights legislation for the primary purpose of winning the votes of the Southern States and liberals in the North and West.

In addition, the Republican majority in Congress placed the anti-poll tax bill at the top of the calendar in an effort to get itself off the spot where it has been placed by the Truman special session. During the days the filibuster is in progress, the machinery of Congress will be stalled. The talkfest could run on until it has exhausted all or most of the time available for this session. The Republican cry that Truman has a handy excuse for failure to act on any of the other legislation Mr. Truman has recommended. In resorting to this maneuver, the Republicans are playing the same brand of politics as the Democrats whose Turnip Day special for the 1948 campaign started all the Washington comment.

From The Norfolk Virginia Pilot

World Front Against Polio

THE First International Conference on Poliomyelitis held in New York last week did not offer the promise of an early victory. But it brought together medical scientists for a world-wide synthesis of the results of research and they formed a united front. There will be a World Congress on Poliomyelitis which will observe every type of treatment and watch every laboratory of experimentation. The conference was opened by Dr. H. Van Riper, medical director of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, remarked, "we may be fighting not one disease, but a whole family of diseases."

Most medical time and money has been spent on the prevention and treatment of poliomyelitis. The complaint has been made by other fields of medical research. It is a criticism that lacks substance. For here science is not merely concerned with the quantity of research, but in a concerted effort to banish a spectre that haunts every mother in the world.

Woman is never more unfaithful to a simple man than she appears during the days immediately preceding the annual vacation. To most men vacation involves locating a suitcase, opening it, inserting therein a number of articles of wearing apparel, and then, with the suitcase closed, closing it, and wandering about the house wondering aloud why everyone else isn't ready to go. Woman's pre-vacation negotiations with milk man, egg man, laundry man, dressmaker, hairdresser, beautician and the neighbors are mysteries to the male, and he is well content to have them remain so. —Jackson (Miss) Daily News.

Over at Hickory there's a rumour about whether a Hickory citizen is a Hickorian or a Hickoryite—one or two we know might be called Hickory nut—Shelby Daily Star.



People's Platform

Foundations Advance Education

GREENSBORO

THIS letter is prompted by the appearance in your People's Platform section recently of a letter over the name of Katherine Grantham Rogers of New York City. It is, by the way, a native of Greensboro, N. C., and former member of the editorial staff of The News. Miss Grantham—"Kitty" to her friends and fellow-workers in various ways—has written Charlotte News—expressed some alarm and raised a question with respect to one of North Carolina's very popular current projects—the organization of various Foundations to aid particular departments of study in the State University system. Miss Grantham viewed with alarm what she sees as a growing tendency to deprive our State University system of its Site funds that Foundations are receiving freedom out.

I hope Miss Grantham will take the freedom of a guy who is on the scene. Our individual freedom and the freedom of our University system is not being threatened by the various Foundations that are being organized in connection with these institutions. The various Foundations are a pretty good opportunity to look at these Foundations, from the angle of persons in business and industry who were interested in building up schools and departments to turn out men and women trained for their particular lines of work. The latter is the point of view of those being asked to put up the money.

I think those Foundations are rather wonderful things and are the one and only answer found so far as to how we can continue to employ top-notch people as teachers and researchers while richer educational institutions and industry continue to bid for their services. The Foundations include a Textile Foundation, an Engineering Foundation, and an Agricultural Foundation, at State College. Over at Chapel Hill, the Business Foundation is working in conjunction with the School of Commerce. At Woman's College there is the Home Economics Foundation, about which Miss Grantham writes very eloquently. There are also others already operating or getting under way. The donations here are from the furniture manufacturers are raising funds now to finance equipment and instruction for courses at State College in the sort of engineering that will train men in the furniture manufacturing field to into the plants and take supervisory responsibility.

This money is that I know of on the part of the many individuals who are being put up with the only interest is in obtaining better trained women for the fields in which they are particularly interested. These Foundations are paying for things that taxpayers generally cannot be called on to do. There are no instances where anybody has attempted to take a halter on anybody's money. These Foundations are paying for things that taxpayers generally cannot be called on to do.

Since I do public relations work, I quickly admit that firms as well as individuals have a right to be well off, like to be regarded as sincere "good citizens" because of the good work they do. Such firms have a right to be well off, like to be regarded as sincere "good citizens" because of the good work they do. Such firms have a right to be well off, like to be regarded as sincere "good citizens" because of the good work they do.

Drew Pearson's New Draft Army Faces By Brass-Hatism

WASHINGTON

NOW that men are being drafted into the Army again, this column proposes to focus more attention on brass-hatism and the draft. The Inspector General declined to comment, and other high-ranking officers spoke freely that the Japanese might be ready to attack if they made no effort to appease any Japanese.

Therefore he proposed that the Government furnish up to \$1500 per family for transporting and sustenance if they did to move. He also proposed a "voluntary relocation commission" of three members to study the problem.

Slapped On Wrist

A SUBSEQUENT court-martial fined the Assistant Chief of Staff, Lt. Col. Kenneth Ross of Springfield, \$1,000 for selling Army ration. Major Elmer Van Zandt of Philadelphia, the Provost Marshal, was fined \$500. Edward Harting of Fort, Ohio, Ordnance, was fined \$1,500, and Chief Warrant Officer John M. Levitt of Major.

Significantly, the only private involved, Joseph B. Franzino, was the only man to go to jail. He got three years at hard labor plus a dishonorable discharge from the Army. Yet the evidence showed that Pvt. Franzino was ordered by Major Harting to transport the black-marketed goods and money.

stitute one place where we don't have to worry about anything happening to our freedom.

—JOHN HARDEN.

Democracy Means Peace

CHARLOTTE

DEMOCRACY is a word formed of two Greek words meaning people and power. Abraham Lincoln called it "government of the people, by the people, for the people."

For ages men had dreamed that there might be a world where all had equal justice and where they might have an equal say in government and where their children might have an equal chance.

We Americans are now the best paid, the best clothed, the best sheltered, the most educated people in the world. We enjoy a great degree of liberty and equality. We must order our conduct and guide our life that we can continue to enjoy these privileges, and hand-down to our children the form of government, invented for this purpose, which our fathers gave us.

We often think of Democracy as only a political abstraction or a figure of speech. Actually every American citizen has a right to have his voice heard in striking contrasts between living in a democracy and under Communism or a dictatorship!

Franklin said, "He who splits against the wind spirit of the people is splitting against the wind if we people in the world don't start working together in world affairs."

Democracy, working for leadership in world affairs, has started its onward march of humanity toward peace and brotherhood and a better life world free from tyranny and war!

Democracy has started its onward march in world affairs by the organization of the world governments. The United Nations is not only an organization of the world governments but of its peoples. Governments may change but the will of people—the will for peace and brotherhood and a better life—will remain unaltered!

The United Nations is as strong as the people who back it. Without popular support, it cannot fulfill its mission or continue to function effectively. I can think of no higher ideal to which the people of America can dedicate itself than the purposes of democracy and of the United Nations!

—A CHARLOTTE YOUTH

Religion Better Than Legislation

CHARLOTTE

MANY letters have appeared in The News concerning the civil rights bills pending in Congress at this time. The anti-lynching law if passed would mean that any man or woman, white or colored, commits a crime horrible enough to force a body of citizens to take a vote on whether to convict. This is a crime regardless of any Federal act, or state or local laws. The anti-lynching law is a step in the right direction. We need no God in any of our legislation. We need no prayer, no religious prayers, more revivals, and more God-fearing people, and let each State have its rights.

—L. L. CHILDRESS.

Election Strategy

WASHINGTON

AT the Republican caucus after six weeks of bitter and hot Republican campaign, Sen. Robert A. Taft, with his accustomed leadership, has developed a strategy favored by his former rival, Governor Thomas on the telephone. Taft said, and Dewey has agreed, that the President's proposals should be at least briefly considered in the appropriate committee.

Certain of the House leaders, including Speaker Joseph Martin, Majority Leader Charles McNichols, and such weighty figures as Leo Allen and Charles McNichols, have not wanted even committee action on the President's proposals. They favored merely listening to the President's message in the press, and bowing out of Washington immediately with what grace they could muster.

DEWEY COMPROMISE minority wanted actually to take some action on the measures proposed by the President. They meant a session lasting several weeks. The Dewey strategy is a compromise between these extremes, and at the moment of writing it is not clear whether it will be adopted by the Republicans.

Whether it is adopted or not, the Dewey strategy is interesting in that it is a compromise between the two extremes. Dewey was astute enough to see that an immediate adjournment, lacking even a vote on the President's proposals, would not mean that the Republican Congress refused even to admit the existence of a crisis. On the other hand, when he emphasized in his telephone conversation with Taft, that the session should be short, Dewey clearly had

in mind the meaning of his own campaign of a prolonged and bitter battle between Truman and the Republican Congress. The situation of the country would have been focused on the comparative merits of Truman and the Congress, rather than on the comparative merits of Truman and Dewey. No prospect could be seen for Dewey's own political career, a short, perfunctory session, in which the Administration would be given an opportunity to state its case for the record, but in which no action would be taken, seemed the best it should bargain. Even so, in one sense, it is not a very good bargain.

RIGHTER POSITION Dewey and his cohorts will argue during the campaign that the special session was nothing but a political maneuver, in which serious legislation could not be undertaken, and that such legislation must be executed by an effective, rather than a politically and morally handicapped, Administration. But Truman will certainly hammer away at the Republicans to deal with housing and prices. The Truman strategists intend particularly to make that the Republican House about the special session being a "rightful" session to talk about the "rightful" position on the veto. Who is right? It is a question of mothers-in-law, and the "rightful" position on the housewives who would not sell for a dollar a pound of hamburger.

This line of attack is by no means new. It is old. It seems probable that the special session will cost Truman the election. It will help Democratic candidates, especially in the big city areas, where the voters are more likely to be eventually adopt. Yet it still does not seem at all probable that the special session will cost Dewey and elect Truman. And in a certain way, the special session is likely in the end to help Dewey in his task of riveting tight Adlai Stevenson and price controls. Next Winter, this is so simple because the special session call may be called by Taft, and the session should be short, Dewey clearly had

Barnet Nover Situation Eases

WASHINGTON

THE HIGH-LEVEL situation in Washington, Berlin and London regarding the Russian blockade has been a perceptible easing of fears that the blockade would precipitate into conflict, precipitately into conflict.

These fears had been mounting rapidly since the Russian ultimatum in Berlin in June. They were set at rest, at least temporarily, when the British and American press conference last week that the outlook for peace is excellent. The Russian ultimatum did not spell out this assertion. Nor did it prohibit the British and American press conference last week that the outlook for peace is excellent.

It is hard to recall when American public opinion has been more volatile. We swing over from optimism to despair, with as little real excuse for the one mood as for the other.

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Truman Still Irked At Tito

PRESIDENT TRUMAN rejected a last-minute suggestion that he should not attend the international situation in his message to Congress. The reason, he said, was because the prospects for peace were brighter than ever. Most people in the United States wanted to be better informed.

Conditions internationally are better now than they were three months ago. The President said Sen. Albert Burke, Republican of Colorado, said he had been told by the President.

Truman was visibly irritated over a newspaper report that Governor of California, Culbert Olson, had talked to Marshall Tito and was optimistic about better trade relations between the United States and Yugoslavia.

"There is no foundation to that," snorted the President. "I have never seen Marshall Tito. He has been invited to baby Marshall Tito just because he has been dropped by the Communists."

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