SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1949

J. E. DOWD

EASY WAY OUT

THE NEW Federal housing measure which has just passed the Senate by an overwhelming majority poses a perplexing problem for those of us who like to think of ourselves as old-fashioned conservatives.

ourseives as oid-tambioned conservatives. In the first place, our opposition to the vast new program of Pederal housing puts us in the company of people like Senator Bricker of Ohio and Senator Cain of Washington, which is not the best company in the world; and furthermore puts us considerably to the right of such normal conservatives as Bob Taft of Ohio.

servatives as Bob Taft of Ohio.

In the second place, it is quite obvious, as Senator Taft says, that we have reaching and the income of many of our American families. He estimates that a four-room house in the East costs #1000 to build today, that an income of \$3,000 is necessary to live in 'a \$7,000 house, and that \$4 per cent of our-people do night have an income that large.

In the third place, it is hard to result

an income that large.

In the third place, it is hard to refute
the argument that failure to control hostwar inflation is responsible for the high
prices, and therefore the Government has
a moral obligation to provide its citizens
with the housing which they cannot buy

All that being true, it is simply not the business of the Federal Government to put a roof over a man's head, any more than it is for the Government to give him his food, his clothing, his fuel, his medical care, his

education, and all the other "necessities" of this life — a list, incidentally, which seems to be growing larger with each passing year. (Example: The "guaranteed minimum income" feature of the new farm

sing year. (Seamoids the "quaranteed marimum income" feature of the new farm
support price plan.)

Ti is a principle which is at stake, not
an expedient. It matters not that the Senstate of the state of the state of the Senstate bill represents a compromise betweenwhat President Truman wanted and what
the Republicans wanted. Both are winou in
surrendering to the creeping paralysis of
individual American initiative: both are
individual American initiative: both are
heart-warming, and more profitable poilitically, to surrender than to tight.

Even if we agreed with the desirability of
Federal housing, we would argue against
its detirability for two reasons: (1) the
entry of the Federal Government into the
building business will sharpen the shortage
on state these ton; (2) we have made commitments for the cold war which are of
prime importance, and there simply instrushough money to win the cold war and
take on wast new domestic expenditures at
the same time.

If the measure provided only long-term
Federally-guaranteed loans to home purchasers, it might be acceptable. In its presharm to the state of the

to Raleigh, he is wined and dined by lobby-ists. He also learns that he can case a tight budget if he "votes right."

Last year Albert Coates, director of the Institute of Government at Chapel Hill, did his best to convince the voters of the State of the mirrit of the amendment to raise legislative pay which the public turned down on Nov. 2.

His logic is still applicable. He said:

PAY FOR LEGISLATORS

YOU WILL probably get a chance to vote next general election time on whether or not you think North Carolina's legis-lators should be paid more for their

service.

If you're looking backward, you might
say that you have not been satisfied with
with what legislators have done in the past
and that, therefore, they don't deserve
any more money.

If you're looking forward, you will real-ize that the lack of adequate pay for North Carolina legislators has done much to make General Assemblies less productive

The bill to give the lawmakers a raise ill come up as an amendment to the State

Jonatuntion.

It will ask \$15 is day for a \$0-day legis-ative seasion for legislators and \$20 per fact for presiding officers (the speaker of the house and the President of the Senate.)

At present, the men who make our laws are paid \$500 per seasion and presiding officers get \$700.

officers get \$700.

It is for this reason that many qualified nen cannot offer for election to the Leg-diature: They simply can't afford it.

Once a man of moderate means does get

A WOMAN'S WORK

HE Senate Committee on Manufactur-ing and Labor yesterday decided that wouldn't go along with the House in uranteeing women at least \$16 for work-40 hours per week.

The group killed an exemption-riddled bill to provide a 40-cents-an-hour mini-mum wage for N. C. women workers after former Gov. J. C. B. Enringhaus said it was unfair because so many exemptions had been tied jo it.

been tied joi it.

He was right in one respect: it was un-fair to those women who were exempted, and their numbers were considerable—all employees of businesses with less th an three workers, farm and domestic help, workers in Tiorist shops, retail and whole-sale stores, dry cleaning plants and laun-dries, and tobacco redyring plants, stem-mertes and welcloues.

meries and warehouses.

But it.is hard to see why it was unfair to
the hotel owners of the state, whom Mr.
Ehringhaus represented. If so me hotels
were exempted, sind others put under the
law, it would indeed be unfair. But hotels
are not competitive with those industries
which were exempted.

What happened, of course, was that the
lobbyists went to work on the bill in the

To this we would like to add that voters

House and riddled it with exemptions. That made it easy for the Senate committee to listen to Mr. Ehringhaus and kill the whole thing.

That, of course, is an unsatisfactory way of settling the basic question: Shall the State of North Carolina guarantee its women workers in business and industry a certain base wage?

The national Government makes such a guarantee for interstate commerce; the state bill would have applied only to intra-state commerces.

state commerce. or an answer to this bade question than we were when the Legisla-question than we were when the Legisla-question than we were when the Legisla-ture convened in January, for the action of the Senate committee clarifies nothing. We are reminded of the words of Mrs. D. S. Coltrane, who said she spoke for some 80,000 representatives of women's organiza-tions in the state. She told the committee: "It is the decent and honorable thing to do, to give a woman at least 40 cents an hard the state of the state of the contract and honorable" thing to answer this ques-tion on its merits, one way or the other; and we've an idea that Mrs. Coltrane and her women will be back in 1951 demanding such an outright answer.

From The Baltimore Evening Sun

PRODUCT OF SENIORITY

If you want to see how the seniority principle works to the disadvantage of a party as well as of the nation, look at the House roll call on the ECA bill.

House roll gall on the ECA bill.

There were 125 Republicans recorded for the bill and only 37 Republicans against it. This division indicates that the GOP is clearly persuaded of the general coprecines of the Marshall Plan. Of course, not a few of those who voted for the authorization yesterday will be eager to cut down the appropriation later on. That is unfortunately true, but it does not contradict the general statement that on the policy in the large the GOP is on the right side.

Desnite this general party afforment.

Despite this general party alignment, he ranking Republicans on the two most

chief minority member of the Appropria-tions Committee. There is no great sur-prise in what Mesars. Reed and Taber did. They have voted that way before. But the fact that they consistently and repeatedly go against their party underlines the dis-advantages of the system by which men get committee posts in Congress.

get committee posts in Congress.

Here are two men clearly out of step with their party and far behind the enlightened opinion of the country. Yet the seniority system places them in postion where they can speak for their party on issues of the highest consequence. When their party is in power, as it was in the last Congress, they can even speak for the country and their speaking can do great out the ECA appropriation.

There is something gravely wrong with such a system. It makes party government a mockery in Congress and it makes for irresponsibility sil around.

Monument To The '49 General Assembly



People's Platform

A Better Place To Live

CHARLOTTE

Editors, The News:

THEF people of Charlotte have always praised or

wonderful paper for the forthrightness of its

editors to describe by both editorials and pictures

editors to describe by both editorials and pictures

estatis in our city. Not very long age you published

pictures of some of our slum sections, even to show
ing dead cats near the places where some of our

citizens had to bathe and use water for drinking and

cooling purposes.

CHARLOTTE

Letter To Mr. Baxter

Letter. To Mr. Baxter

Editors, The News:

CHARLOTTE

Editors, The News:

(The Televier is an open letter addressed to Mayor

I terbert Baxter through yobr columns:

The Televier is a comparable to the second of the columns of this cleanand of you as e dition and tax-payer of this city to give me an explanation in the columns of this paper, why your present administration is the columns of this paper, why your present administration is the columns of this paper, why your present administration is the columns of the paper, which is the paper of the paper, which is the paper of the paper, and the paper of the paper, and paper of the paper, and paper, paper, and paper, paper, and paper, paper, pap

uptown close to the Square that I know of.

(3) Your Traffic Dept, permits parking by hours to the guests of Hotel Charlotte on S. Po St. Why not put, parking meters on this street seg when the Springer, Selvay and other hotels the the Charlotte on the street of the Stringer, Selvay and other hotels the Hotel Charlotte.

on mice and ten thereby enawment of the colors can be selected under a faire so clitters can be selected under the colors of the

hundred businesses experience that are resonanmake Charlotte a lob better city minima.

Experience that are resonanmake Charlotte a lob better city minima.

In the property of the city of approximately \$6,000 a year. What has this high salaried employee of the City done to remedy the dense snoke condition that prevails over our city at the content of the city of the city

Marquis Childs

Dubious Tradition

James Marlow

One After Another

But why haven't we provided enough decent homes for people? The cost of housing is too high, Taft said. He added:

g.

"Today it is very difficult to sild a four-room house for less as \$7,000. A family would have an income of approximate-\$3,000 a year in order to live in \$7,000 house."

19 BLOOD a year in order to live in THE BARDS AGTS

FUTY-TIVE PARE PROPERTY OF THE PARENTY OF THE PARENTY OF THE PARENTY OF THE BARDS OF THE PARENTY OF THE

BETTER ENGLISH

speaker."

2. What is the correct pronunciation of "gnash"?

3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Carrot, parsnip, parsly,

4. What does the word "satur

nine" mean?

5. What is a word beginning with ad that means "B reprove gently"?

ANSWERS

1. Say, "did not confuse (or, disconcert) the speaker." 2. Prynounce math, a as in at. ?" Farrley; 4. Heavy, grave; gloomy, dull. "He as manufab, as a tumbe zemper." 3. Admontab.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Doctor Shortage Doesn't Hold To Brass

WASHINGTON THERE is a definite doctor shortage in the Army-Navy, I though apparently not under some circumstances. Certain phases of the situation were illustrated by a telephone and the state of the

to refleve it.

But when the ankie was bandaged, Mrs. Eisenhower found and could not put on her high-heeled evening dispers. Define the could not put on her high-heeled evening dispers, and the property desired to the country desired to the country desired to the country desired to the country desired to the crowd in the problem was solved by Col. Thompson removing the bandage, thereby enabling Mrs. Inte to put on the evening slupper. Then the two Army doctors accompanied to the country desired to the companies of the country desired to the companies of the country desired to the country de

Tobin's Strike Failed

ntioned.

NOTE—Real reason Ryan wants exemption of steveds
m wage-hour act is so water-front work won't have to
cead around among all stevedores, but can be dished
Rvan to his favorites. Why Secretary Tobin has teal
with Ryan on this remains a mystery.

Only Guarantee For Peace

Man a second the second second

Ide with the Unit. All the installation is the conAll this-has brought a suith, earfully simed deve from
secon for cold-war peace concessions. Whether to make
seconcessions is about the most important question now
secon for cold-war peace concessions. Whether to make
seconcessions is about the most important
eation facing the nation.
If the Soviet sets a rest from the cold war, if trade consions are now given which permit the strengthening of
the instruct—expectably war industry—It will probably be
selved in the contract of the cold war, if trade conback to cutthroat tactics again, and the Western world
laws lost its position of advantage.
On the other hand, the only sure quarantee of permaone species with Russian propile.

Capital News Capsules