# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS



B. S. GRIFFITH

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 1949

#### BUS FARE HEARING

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IT was readily apparent at the Raleigh
hastring on Duke Power but rates that
the State Utilities commission still lacks
the State Utilities commission still lacks
the facilities for militantly defending the
public interest in the fashion that Oovernor Kerr Scott would have it do. Rather,
the Commission appears to be still acting
as a rubber stamp for utility requests, despite legislation by the recent General
Assembly which purportedly was designed
to strengthen that body.
The situation was this:
The Duke Power Company had petitions of the Company had petitions of the Company are showing a
large loss in support of their request.
Attorneys of Charlotte, Greensboro, and
Durham were present to ask a delay in the
proceedings so that they might have further time to study the statistical dat, One
of them. City Attorney shaw of Challotte,
asked the Commission to send it experts
to Charlotte in order to be sure the people
asked the Commission of the company are
The Commission denied both requests.
Chairman Windorner granted a delay of
conly one week, emphasizing that if the
power company is suffering the losses it
contends it is, it is entitled to relief within
a reasonable period. Mr. Windorner also said
it would be impossible with the forces at its
command to go into the books of Duke
command to go into the books of Duke
command to go into the books of Duke

a reasonable period. Mr. Winborne also said it would be impossible with the forces at its command to go into the books of Duke Power Company in all eight cities involved in the rate case. "We have a pretty general idea about op-erational costs and the applicant company, after all, is not petitioning for a fair return after all, is not petitioning for a fair return

bus transportation system - no, not

even a profit but just trying to break even so far as-it can," Mr. Winborne said.

And that appears to be that.

It will serve no purpose, of course, but we would remind the gentlemen on the Commission of the words of Governor Scott in his inaugural address:

"In the field of regulating public utilities we must have fair and aggressive administration of fair laws designed to protect the public interest as well as the interests of investors in public utilities. Our State Utilities Commission needs to be reorganized and supplied with the services of experts so that it can act promptly and effectively in the public interests.

is can act promptly and effectively in the public interest."

Subsequently, a measure was passed by the General Assembly increasing the Commission membership from three to five and authorizing the employment of technical personnel to investigate claims for rate increases. But the measure has apparently done little good so far. That there is a crying need for a powerful Utilities Commission dedicated to representing the public interest should be perceitly clear from True News has felt all along that the bus fare increase—considering the changes in the value of the dollar in the past two generations as well as the resity increased distances traveled by the average passenger—is not exorbitant. A dime is not too much to pay for the average bus ride in the City of Charlotte.

But it does leave us with a feeling of frustration to realize that the people reality have very little protection in all matters concerning public utility rates and services, and that the Commission as now set up its rights much leaves as militant defender.

not even a passive guardian of the people's rights, much less a militant defender.

#### TIGHTENING PAROLE SYSTEM

DR. TALMADGE JOHNSON, the man Governor Scott named State Pa-Toles Commissioner, used to be pastor of the First Baptist Church of Newton. Whether that is the reason for his passion for straight-shooting in his job or whether he is simply an honest man is not par-ticularly important.

The fact remains that he seems to be out to tighten-up and improve the paroles system in North Carolina.

tem in North Carolina.

Talking to the Wake County Bar Association last week, Dr. Johnson took the occasion to warm the lawyers:

He had heard, he said, that some lawyers were letting it be known that they could get paroles for clients. They purported to be so certain, according to Dr. Johnson's be so certain, according to Dr. Johnson's on the source of the second that they were designated the day on which the prisoner would be parolled.

only on any control of the formation came from prisoners and that "The word of a prisoner may not always be taken at face value." But, he said, the "suspicion" was widespread and that he kniefied to socioth it.

He did it bluntly:

They (certain lawyers) cannot promise a ent a parole any more than they can prom-e a client a favorable jury verdict. Any sug-

gestion of having influence to sell is a clear violation of professional ethics."

violation of professional ethics."

And Dr. Johnson was right; it is a matter
of ethics. There have been those in the past
who have said that the paroles system was
too loose, that practically everyone gets a
parole as soon as his minimum time is
served. Dr. Johnson has indicated that
such will not be the case under his regime.

such will not be the case under his regime.

"We are giving." he said, "more thorough
attention to the applicants with a view
toward their serving more of the sentence
than has been true in the past."

Yet Dr. Johnson is not trying to do away
with the paroles system. On the contrary,
he thinks that "the parole' system is the
tentilin and socially beneficial
method of terminating a prinoner's sertence."

tence."
While paroled, he said, a prisoner is kept
under surveillance by welfare representatives and law enforcement groups. He is a
placed in a job before he is paroled. Thus,
he is theoretically kept out of trouble in
that early period of adjustment to free-

# LOYALTY OATHS FOR TEACHERS

"PREPOSTEROUS" is a rather strong word, and we would hestitate to apply it, as our morning contemporary did to the objection by school teachers to a loyal-ty oath requirement on the ground that is singles out and discriminates against them.

Rather it is only natural that our teach-ers should object, and we can hardly blame

them.

In the first place, there is probably no body of professional Americans more deeply endowed with patriotism and more zeal-y endowed with patriotism and more zeal-y endowed with patriotism and more zeal-y endowed profession we possess in this country than our school teachers. The mere fact that they are associated with young people in the formative years is no reason to single them out and view them suspiciously. We might as well include all parents, newspaper editors, the fellows who draw the comics, those who produce movies, or any of the other millions of Americans who come into contact with young children in one way or another with young children in one way or another with young children in one way or another and thus exercise some influence over

them.

In the second place, there is doubt that
the whole loyalty oath requirement is
worth the tempest it has stirred up. Anyone who is familiar with Communist techniques (and they have been clearly re-

vealed in the current New York trials) should know that a bona fide Communist would not hesitate one moment to sign such an oath of loyalty if by doing so he could better carry out his orders from could better carry out his Moscow. Such oaths simply of people we need to trap. simply do not trap the

people we need to trap.

Finally, to require a loyalty oath for school teachers without requiring the same oath for each and every person on the public pay rolls, national, State, county and local would be further evidence of a national state of mind which is already jeopardizing our traditional scademic free-food to unsemptions between the same of the property of

isolate of mino which is a freedy isopardizing our traditional academic freedom. In unsersuious hands, such an oath of the company of the com

### From The High Point Enterprise

### SO WHAT?

FRED JONES, prospective candidate for of Governor of Okiahoma, was playing solf with some friends. Coming up to the tee to a 116-yard, three-par hole he announced that he would rather sink his tee shot than be elected. A minute thereafter he made his hole-in-one. Now some of his superatitious friends, or hopeful enemies, are contending that Jones' "ace" is a "sign" of his impending defeat, that he has sold his political birthright for a mess of golf pottage.

Between canning an ace and being Gov-ernor of Oklahoma, who would hesitate a minute in making his choice? As a matter of fact there are a whole lot

of people who wouldn't swap just one par round for the Governorship of North Caro-lina and nine tenths of the caddies of to-day would rather have Byron Nelson's swing than Harry Truman's job.

A good listener is not only popular—but, after a while he learns something. — Coffeeville (Miss.), Courier.

A Minnesota woman of 80 is taking her first vacation. That may be why she lived to be 80. — Fort Myers (Fla.) News-Press.

Some folks can get along on so little that it's almost like being rich.—Lamar (Mo.) Democrat.

'Of Course, It Isn't The Job I Expected To Give You-'



## People's Platform

# 'Let's Give 'Em A Hand'

Editors. The News:

In the cop had been absentimeded and allowed her to proceed on that one-way street, going the worn way. The News of the News o

# Supports Barden Bill

CHARLOTTE

CHARLOTTE
tors>THE News:
keeping up with the editorial page of The News.
I am getting rather weary of reading the views of
Catholic friends about the church and the

state. I think what's worrying them more than any-thing is that they are afraid they will be left out in the Federal aid to education program. I don't think any private school should get this aid, because any child in the United States is welcome in our public

# mankind." —W. C. BUSBIN. (Note: The News recently published a series of teen articles explaining the Commission reports, d has published many editorials and other articles the topic. It will continue to do so in the belief at it is essential that the Commission's recommission's recommendations be carried out—Editor, The News.) Quote, Unquote

Mrs. William F. Cillock, who lives near Otis, contentedly reading last night when a scorpion pped down nearby from atop the door. To make ters worse, the scorpion had two heads. Mrs. Gil-brought the critter in for The Little Argus to in-t.—Carlsbad (N.M.) Current-Argus.

I suggest that The News, in keeping with its public-minded editorial policy, accept a responsibility of carrying this story to its readers by printing a series of articles explaining this report and urriging. Hoover gaze us good food for tnought in the May issue of Fertune in which he states, "History makes it clear that wasteful sovernments cannot survive. Unless our republic, with the burden it has to and efficiency than is now possible, its government will fall—and with it will go the last hope of liberties of mankind."

is what I believe in-freedom of religion.

I am all for Rep. Barden and his bill for aid to education. If the Catholics are afraid to let their children attend public schools, then let them walk to their own.

**Hoover Commission** 

ors. THE NEWS:

-HOWARD E. PEAVLER.

CHARLOTTE

# Tale Of Two Cities

THIS great strategic outpost of a first hower is really two clus, mixed and mingled together, a Chinese city and a British city. The Chinese city is precisely like any city in China proper: The any city in China proper: The uncending rows of open, boditie shops; the samelis, the steady chattering noise, the violent colors, the ant-like energy. There are more hand 700,000 Chinese in the Chinese

# A Tricky Affair

# Monetary Problem

By SAW DAYSON

NEW YORK — Wo — Top brass
in the American and British treasuries meet today as pressure grows
in the Internation and British treasuries meet today as pressure grows
in her fight to keep the pound
and the property of the

#### Mississippian Fights Water Projects Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINOTON

GREGARIOUS, white-thatched Congressman Bill whittington of Ministripol is in a strategic spot as chariman of
left behind when Pederal funds are helded out for water
conservation, rivers and harbors, and flood control. Mississpip ranks eighth in getting these improvements.

For the states, when Washington, which ranks statenth,
and Oreson, eighteenth, and are partly arid, request waterfor other states. When Washington, which ranks statenth,
and Oreson, eighteenth, and are partly arid, request waterfor the states. Mean Washington, which ranks statenth,
and Oreson, eighteenth, and are partly arid, request waterfor the states. When Washington, which ranks statenth,
and Oreson, eighteenth, and are partly arid, request waterseniatives, testified for the swainington interrupted constantly.
In the Northwest, Whittington interrupted constantly,
and the state of the proposed Columbia Valley Authority
ones. Why can't your state undertake the necessary development?

Why can't your state undertake the necessary development.

Whittington is a militant for of the Columbia Valley Authority, though SM Mississippi counties benefit from the similar Tennessee Valley Authority. So, as
before the Senate, Bull replied that he had not leatined
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Bull: "Yes, sir, I am. I believe that the people of the North-

west—"Whittington: (irritably, "Yes, yes, we've heard all that. Now give in your reasons—one two three."

Now give in your reasons—one two three."

Probably worth show up in the official record. As chairman, he has complete censorahip over testimony, can revise or delete his own remarks.

Vice Presidential Humor

touring the Allied battle fronts with a group of Congress-men. The party included Rep. Marvit Jones of Texas. now chief justice of the P. S. Court of Clakeys: Rep. Charles H. Randall of Califernis, Rep. Martin Welling of Unh, and Bartley himself. moden. the Congressional committee cound itself booked by the U. S. Embassy for a trip into the British countryide early the next morning. So, placing their shoes outside the door to be shined according to standard British custom. the party went to bed, leaving calls for 620 A. M. custom the party went to bed, leaving calls for 620 A. M. telephoned Congressions Wellington's room and in a broad Emilish accent announced:

rage awats without."

Moscow's Long Memory
THE story can now be told of how the Soviet Government
I schemed to dismember Caechoslovakis following the war.
It can be told because Gen. Helidor Plats is dead, exceBut the story was not buried with him.
Plax, recently depty chief of staff of the Checholovak
Army, had been military attache in Moscow during the war.
country to a group of small states, as it had been before theMasaryk-Wilson concept of a union of the Czechs and
Stovaks.

Vinson's Punching Bag

I DON'T know whether Ed Prichard, the so-called "wonder boy" of the New Deal, is guilty of ballot stuffing down for the New Deal, is guilty of ballot stuffing down for the New Deal, is guilty of ballot stuffing down of in Washington during the war and the reason he got cussed out even more than if he had stuffed Ballot boxes.

Prich was the right-hand man to Fred "Under Stuffing and the stuffing of Economic Ballot stuffing on the Orthon of Economic Ballitation.

Vinson, the economic stabilizer, was a rock of Ginsaltar in that battle. But his right bower and from our dealers in the battle stuffing of the stuffing of Economic Ballitation, which were sufficiently—as a reasypting entirena, a prisoner of the young more than Vinson, because Vinson, was vitwed—mistakenly—as a reasypting entirena, a prisoner of the young more than Vinson, because Vinson, was vitwed—mistakenly—as a reasypting entirena, a prisoner of the young more than Vinson, because Vinson, was vitwed—mistakenly—as a reasypting entirena, a prisoner of the young more than Vinson, because Vinson, was vitwed—mistakenly—as a reasypting entirena, a prisoner of the young more than Vinson, because Vinson, was vitwed—mistakenly—as a casporing entirena, a prisoner of the young more than Vinson, but the price and was the price of the price and wages where they were, we would not now be suffering the uncertainty of receasion.

If the country, had followed Vinson and his urging and kept prices and wages where they were, we would not now be suffering the uncertainty of receasion.

If the country had followed Vinson and his urging and kept prices and wages where they were, we would not now be suffering the uncertainty of receasion.