TUESDAY, JULY 11, 1950

### COUNCIL MAY REGRET HASTY ACTION

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THE natural gas question is alased to come before the City Council again this week. There is a possibility that the Council might approve the transfer of the gas franchise now held by Duke Power Co. to this Piedmont Natural Gas. Corp. We urge the Council once again not to take any precipitate action that the people of Charlotte might have cause to regret later.

We doubt that the members of the City Council have yet had access to all the facts they need to make an intelligent decision. They have heard Piedmont's story, and it sounds good. But two other companies have also applied to the Federal Power Commission for permission to tap Transcontinentait's pipe line and distribute natural gas in the Piedmont Carolinas. Both want to serve Charlotte. At least once of them. Carolina Natural Gas Corp, thinks Chailotte will need a great deal more natural gas than Piedmont is guaranteeing, and has prepared its brief accordingly. That fact alone—if there were no other considerations—is adequate reamon for the Council those haven for the Council thas want for the Council that tevent, would not the Council that the council find itself in an uncommon for the Council to wars for the class to considerations—is adequate reamon for the Council that you want for the council find itself in an uncommon for the Council to My wavay from accordingly. That fact alone—if there were no other considerations—is adequate rea-son for the Council to shy away from hasty action until it can be absolutely sure that Piedmont will be able and willing to

and industrial purposes as Charlotte and industrial purposes as Charlotte and the considerations, and they theroughly confuse the picture. Within the next few days the FFC will begin a new hearing. It promises to be a drawn-out affair, leating weeks and even months. Transcontinental is seeking authority to extend its present pipe line into New England and sell gas there at premium longs-haul rates. Three other companies—Piedmont. Carolina and the Public Service Corp. of North Carolina—have intervened in the hearing. They contend that the FFC should force Transcontinental to release zome of its gas to the Piedmont area, since the big line passes right through the Piedmont. Each of these companies hopes to convince the FFC that if should be permitted to tap the Transcontinental line and distribute gas to Piedmont cities.

Hence, there are two separate propositions here:

erless.

2. The distribution of natural gas within municipalities, once it is delivered to them. This is a quite different matter. The Council has authority in this field. Once the FPG decides in favor of one of the three companies, the Council can then choose between the self-ernatives: (A) let the Duke Fower C. hold its franchise and dis-

peting applicance as the experience of the rest other two? We think not.

Has the Council considered the possibility that Piedmont might not win itself, the product of the council find itself the nuccomfortable bargaining position with the winner?

Is the Council sure that Transcontinental has access in the fields to the extransitural gas Piedmont promises to deliver?

Has the Council investigated the possibility that an entirely new system of gas distribution, covering a much wider residential and commercial area than Duke's present lines, should be built here?

Will the Council act before it makes any investigation whatsoever of the pronounced trend toward municipal ownership of natural gas system? One of the outstanding engineering firms in the native of the council operate its own gas system, just as it operates the water system.

These are just a few of the many questions that the people of Charlotte will want answered before they approve any transfer of the gas franchise.

The only excuse for speedy action given for its that Charlotte might get natural gas a few months earlier. Even if we could agree to that, it would still not be an overriding reason. It so happens that we do not agree. Let us assume the Piedmont wins

agree Let us assume the Piedmont wins out over its competitors. The FPC hearing out over its competitors. The FPC hearing will certainly require weeks, and perhaps months. After that, Piedmont will have to construct its network of subdidary lines tapping the big Transcontinental line. Since it requires only two successive readings by the City Council to approve the transfer of Duke's present franchies to Piedmont, delay now will mean, at worst, a delay of ten days to two weeks. The City has done without natural gas for several generations now. It should be able to spare a couple of weeks longer.

# MURDER IN KOREA

WORDER IN KOREA

WORDE cannot express the combined grief and anger that Americans felt on hearing yesterday of the first atrocity of the Korean konericans, who surrendered in porthern Korean troops, were found later, shot in the fact, their hands tied behind their backs.

This was murder, not war. This was the cold, cruel act of fanatical Communists who had been taught to hate the Americans. This was the brutal deed of men who, if they know the rules of war, scorn to observe them.

The nation will grieve over the death of these seven American soldiers. It will grieve longer, and more deeply, than it would if these seven had died in combat.

A man who falls on the field of battle be-

a symbol.

This first atrocity has underscored the very thing that all of us must realize before we can think straight about the Korean war—that Communis oldiers accord. We are not fighting a civilized opponent who uses our rule book and our code. We are fighting a ruthes, inhuman foe who will resort to any cruelty to obtain his objective.

If the death of these seven Americans seals our differences and galvanizes us into action, they will not have died in vain.

### POLITICAL MANEUVER DEFEATED

THE confirmation yesterday of Sumner
I Pike as Adomic Energy Commissioner
is reassuring evidence that the Senates because the senate that Pike does not "measure up" to AEC requirements. That was all Against Pike open politics.

Pike, you will recall had been rejected by the Senate members of the joint Atomic Energy Commistee by a 3-4 vote Four.

Republicans and one Democrat teamed up to form the lender majority.

At no time during the examination of Pike did the Interest Commistee by the Michael Pike and the Pike and the Michael Pike and the Michael

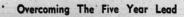
From The Detroit News

# LOGICAL AS CAN BE

The armed services as a rule are given.

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of directness in their handling of foreign
hannes. No tortude reasoning by a cloismannes. No tortude reasoning by a cloismered pedant can make any mystery out of

Balony Woods for the Bois de Boulogne.





## People's Platform

# We Win War And Throw Away Victory

that we are to obtain and underwrite Irredom throughout the earth. We have engaged in three wars, two major, in my day, and I can't see that wars, two major, in my day, and I can't see that the control of the control

# About The Primary CHARLOTTE

Oraham is a Democrat and stands with his party and will be taken care of by the Democratic ad-ministration.

# Foresight Of Forrestal Is Revealed By Korean Debacle

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

the rough Korean hills.

There was nothing unbearable, network in the state of the

# **Buck Rogers Weapons Won't** Win War, But Doughboys Will

By ROBERT RUARK

NEW YORK
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# Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round Truman Rejected Plan To Halt Strike

### Rock Island Intervenes

## Keeping The Record Straight

Keeping The Record Struight
Unions of the Control Relationship Made Last January Which
Been Congrummen Would Like To Forget:
Rep. Robert Chipperfield. Illinois Republican—'In my
judgment, to furnish (Korean) ald would be like treating
poison from the virus to the shoulder.'
Rep. Denaid Jacksen, Califernia Republican—'South Kores is a Ratan without a Corregion; a Dunkeque without
Rep. John M. Verys, Ohio Republican—'This (Korean
and is struight rathele money which we cannot afford
and is struight rathele money which we cannot afford
and is attainfully the present and is a struight of the congroups are entitled to some considerable and Correct
and is aboutly Operation Rathele: It will be said, of
course, that this is demanquery, but if that be demanquery.
Statement that Congrumman Nison would like to have
forgotten; One of the few who vigerously championed and
the Congrumman Robots with its all January
as Congruence Rosse first veited against it last January
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