

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1953

A BUDGET PLAN FOR MUNICIPAL PROJECTS

T WILL NEVER be said of Councilman
Herbert Bacter that he lacks a flair
for the speckaciar.
The broad program of projects be tossed
out for discussion at Wednesday's Council
session would cost millions of dollars and
would require years to accomplish.
No new ideas are to be found in the
list, unless the expanded street lighting
suggestions can be counted as new. All
the rest, at one time or another and in
one form or another, have been up for
public discussion.

one form or another, have been up for public discussion.

Most of them are desirable: some of them are essential. The main value in Mr. Baxter's move is that it focuses atten-tion on them once again, at a time when Charlotte must give a great deal of thought to the future. And the will keep the spotlight turned on-the 14 proj-ects.

keep the spotlight turned on-the 14 projects.

If the city decides to undertake any such massive program, a more business-like procedure than that used in the past will be needed. The best method we know of its to develop a capital expenditures budget—a priority list of needed public improvements, prepared with the city's are needed over a span of years.

Such a budget would not be a means for spending more than the city can

for spending more than the city afford; rather it would be a means

afford; rather it would be a means for guiding the improvement program along desirable and orderly channels. Many American cities have adopted capital improvement budgets. They are usually in three parts:

1. A detailed list of projects to be undertaken in the coming year. This is incorporated in the regular city budget.

2. A second list of projects, somewhat less detailed, with priorities assigned, to

be carried out during the following four or five years.

3. A third list of projects, usually without priority to be undertaken in the more distant future.

In its operation, the capital improvement budget is reviewed each year. The Council consults with the various municipal departments, with the planning board, and with any other interested agencies and organizations about the most pressing city needs. And then it may shuffle the projects on the waiting list around, moving some of them up and pushing others down.

The capital improvements budget have

of some of them up and pushing others down.

The capital sprovements budget has many desirable points. It encourages municipal officials to plan for the future. The annual review assures that each project will be examined frequently, thus guarding against the adoption of illadvised proposals. The need for sites can be anticipated and land purchased at favorable prices. Projects may be scheduled for slack periods. Where special legislation is needed, there is time to get General Assembly action. Engineering and planning staffs can be used more efficiently.

ciently.

And most important of all, perhaps, the long-range list of projects encourages public acceptance and support, and affords some protection against pressure groups

some protection against pressure groups with pet projects.

The Institute of Government at Chapel Hill has made a study of capital expenditures budgets, and a recent issue of its publication. Fourtast Government was explained the plan in detail. We have suggested before that the Council would repeat the property of the property of the conference on the subject Council man Baxter's program prompts us to renew the suggestion today.

SETBACK LINES MERIT TOP PRIORITY

SETBACK LINES MERIT TI
WE WOULD like to second Councilman
Steve Dellinger's motion on setback
lines for uptown streets, and then offer
an amendment to it.

Mr. Dellinger, impatient with the alow
and tedious procedure for amending the
city's setback ordinance, proposes some
form offects. He feels that property ownars would voluntarily comply.
The section he has in mind js bounded
on the north by 11th St., on the west by
the Southern Railway lines, on the south
by Morchead St., and on the east by Caldwell St.

*Perhaps the Council, by resolution,
could express its intention of adopting
setback lines on all the streets in this
area as soon as surveys are completed.
And perhaps that would be ample notice
to At the same time, there would be no.

OF PRIORITY
street ould seriously impede any future
attreet widening project.
Would it not be better to go one step
further and give the city engineering
department enough manpower to speed
up the surveys of property lines in this
area? In the past, city engineers have
had to work on setback surveys between
other assignments. Thus it usually takes
months to do on one street what could
be done in two or three weeks by a crew
of men devoting their full time to the
job.
Charlotte is threatened by traffic paralysis. The streets in its main business
district are simply too narrow to carry
today's volume of traffic, and congestion
will grow worse as the population grows.

today's volume of traffic, and congestion will grow worse as the population grows. The temporary lines suggested by Coun-cilman Dellinger will probably help. It is more important, we feel, to follow through with a concentrated effort to finish the engineering surveys and amend the set-back ordinance in the regular legal fash-ion.

AN ACTION PROGRAM FOR CHRISTIANS

THE ABUSE of investigative power by some legislators has prompted thoughtful and influential men to concern themselves increasingly with affairs of

The clergy, in particular, has pondered and discussed the propriety and wisdom of various methods of combating commu-nism and preserving basic individual liber-

One of the most profound analyses of this issue is now being distributed among Presbyterian clergymen throughout the U. S. It is a letter from the moderator of their church, the Rev. John A. Macky. He makes these points that want em-phasis:

He makes

Appropriate precautions should be constantly taken to forestall subversion, Congressional committees have properly rendered valuable service in this regard.

But "treason and dissent are being con-

But "treason and dissent are being con-fused." And more seriously, communism is being dealt with as an "exclusively police problem".

"As a result of this there is growing up against communism a fanatical negativism. Totally devoid of a constructive program of action, this negativism is, in danger of lead-ing the American mind, into a spiritual vacuum."

vacuum.

Dr. Mackay suggests that earnest consideration be given these three basic guiding principles:

"I. The Christian church has a prophetic function to fulfill. ... Whitever concerns man and his welfare is a concern of the church and its ministers. ... The church wess it to its own-members and to-men in general to draw attention to violations of those spiritual bases of human relationship.

ship . . .

"2. The majesty of truth must be pre-served . . Loyalty to truth is the com-mon basis of true religion and true cul-

ture.

"3. Mod's sovereign rule is the controlling factor in history. Social disorder and false political philosophies cannot be adequately met by police measures, buf only by a sincere attempt to organize society in accordance with the evertasting principles of God's moral government of the world.

Dr. Mackay asks for a frank recognition of the fact that many revolutionary forces in our times are in part the judgment of God upon human selfishness and complacency, and upon man's forgefulness of man. The real question, he believes, is how to solve the problems presented by outmoded concepts such as feudalism and imperialism in such a way that the transition to a better order will be gradual and constructive. In other words, it behouses Christians to practice their precepts in government, to fight injustice or the abuse of—truth.

A man who finds a fortune will usually try to marry it.—Ellaville (Ga.) Sun.

Dressen says he'll be happier in Oak-land than in Brooklyn and we can believe that. After all, Oakland doesn't have to play the Yankees.—New Orleans States.

An American newspaper says that Win-ston Churchill is trying to grab the H-bomb and run with the ball, and all we hope is that he doesn't try any laterals in this direction.—Lexington Herald.

What to do to keep Tito off the road to war presents a neat little problem in traf-fic management, since more and more be looks like a Syngman Rhee tread.—Ashe-tille (N. C.) Citizen.

The next great need in the way of laws regulating wages, hours and working conditions is one that will enable a man to really get ahead and win merit promotions in a mere 40 hours per week.—

Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont.

The worst thing about being a city of-ficial in a small town like Omega is that if you do your duty you make about that if the people mad and if you shirk your duty you make the other half of the people mad—Omega (Go.) News.



Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but may be withheld from slication in the discretion of the Editors, The News reserves the right to condense.

'Trick Or Treat' Results

Editors, THE NEWS:

IN behalf of St. John's Youth Council, let me
there you must be still for your conneration IN behalf of St. John's You'de Council, see me thank you most heartily for your co-operation in giving publicity to a project of our young people which was carried out on Halloween night, Our young people wanted to do something that young expenses the same time they wanted to do something that the same time they wanted to do something that they wanted to do something that would be helpful to others rather than merely for their own piezaure.

ed to do something that would be neighful to others rather than merely for their own pleasure.

Therefore, they were happy to find that the United Nations has worked out of the great blessing to the underprivileged children of the world. Through UniteF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) our small gifts of money may be translated into milk for needy children, vaccination and ineculable the weak to grant-depend on the control of the world. In place of the usual "trick or treat" request, our young people invited small gifts for this fund and they met with a warm and friendly welcome in the house was and to those who contributed that stoid of \$259.58 has been sent to UNICEF. Our young people enjoyed their evening immensely, and they are hoping that next year other church groups may join together to make it an even more fruit-early adventure.

—LALDEE U. BROACE Minister

—LALDEE U. BROACE Minister

-CLAUDE U. BROACH, Minister St. John's Baptist Church

MARSHVILLE

Platform For Pleasure

Editors, Ter News:

Politors, Ter News:

For New 2.

Politors experiment value, your People's Platform

For New 3. has no equal. For humor it surpassed
the comics. May 1 cite to you plot a few of the
Men did alcohol become (as stated by Mrs.
Barger) the country's greatest killer? The latest
statistics I can find still show heart disease at the
top of the list, and alcoholism is completely misssimost every corner in Charlotte," must at least
have a slight acquaintance with bootleggers, as
I've never found even one legal store on a corner.

For K. M. Cook, congratualisms! I admire
a slight acquaintance with bootleggers, as
I've never found even one legal store on a corner.

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his preserved for the last. Rein; a retired Nay
have the control of the last shelf and should know that
all military men, during their basic training,
are taught bedefiner. Any private or seams landwas
for being arrested when he disobeyed North Carolina's speed lands.

Upon entering our state the motority sees

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Upon entering our state the motority sees

Lippos the control of the last is sovereign and can
make and enforce those laws not in conflict with

the statutes of the U. S. government. Surely a military officer of the upper echelon should know that. C. W. McGEE Jr., USN (Ret.)

No Buale Beak Is Gov. Clements



(Note: The protruding proboscis belongs to Gov. Frank G. Clement of Tennessee, but it's now as bad as it looks. By coincidence, Gov. Clements nose was directly in jine with a white handser hands of the control of the

Listen To Graham

CHARLOTTE Editors, THE News:

CHARLOTTE EDITOR having the time should listen to the time should list a so ciock over the radio. Last Sunday he told about Preacher Graham was talking about the terrible said, when a popular singing idol take a solder boy's wife while he is serving his country in Korca.

Two Top Scientists Call For **Better Continental Defense**

By MARQU

TWO RECOGNIZED authorities

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such as carving a few hundred millions out of the defense allocation to the armed services.

DEFENSE COSTS HIGH The two scientists polo out that two scientists polo out that the present services are particularly invested to the properties of the

By MARQUIS CHILDS

of both nations.

For several months predictions have been forthcoming of a Presidential speech giving the country more of the truth. At the White House it is said that this is still not be works. It will come in a matter of weeks, certainly before the end of the year, in a telecast from the White House. This may also after the President an opportunity of the contraction of the president an opportunity of the present of the president and opportunity of the present direction of boilers.

fense.

The present direction of policyplanners in the Department of Defense is toward ever greater reliance on atomic weapons. This accords with the conviction that no
nation, not even as rich and productive a country as the United
States, can afford both the old,
conventional arms and the new

World Is Back Where It Was **Before Premier Stalin Died**

WASHINGTON
THE COLD blast from Moscow
Thas frozen any hope that things
might be different soon. In less
than a year the Russians have
made a full turn of the wheel.
The world is where it was when
Stalin died.

By JAMES MARLOW

with from Moscow at from Moscow phope that things with a first soon. In less well as the soon of the first soon, and the less well as the soon of the less was the soon of the West European, we was keeped by two World Wars and no peace in sight as the soon of the west European, set in his ways. rearning to ward off a 'third.

At one at the West European, we was the well as the soon of the west European, we want to the well as the w make a full turn of the when the make a full turn of the

By JAMES MARLOW

Drew Pearson's

Gen. Persons Key Man At White House

A week-in-and-week-out scruting of what's happening at the White House in Control William B. Persons as the most important man not only in the President Sile but in inflenencing the major policies of the Eisenhower administration.

It is the state of the state of the state of the Sile of the S

read, together with every presidential whim and fancy.
General Persons knows, for initiates not General Persons knows, for initiates and the second of the s

rienced, is something of a prisoner. He has to depend on the men around him. The minute he enters the White House he ear the white House he are the honey appear. He has to read what his staff puts before him; he takes the phone and the honey appear. He has to read what his staff puts before him; he takes the phone him mold his ness. This was true of Treman. It is equally, if not more, true of a president with limited experience in civilian government.

Mun At The Rudder

I' was General Persons, a lifelong friend SIAPE in Parts, who handled startly believe the startly and naturally settled down closest of like as the chief though hunceognized pilet of general White House drift.

History will show that it was General History will show that it was General.

Where Is The Crusade?

The great crusade today just isn't cru-sading. The present policy continues to pretty much as Sikk Persons originally conceived it: Lie low and don't rock the present properties of the present present the for the next Congress. No momentous de-cisions are being made. There is unfortu-nate though understandable indecision re-garding budget-balancing and taxes. There is no definite policy on the dynamic-taden farm program. Foreign policy has boiled down to stopping Charchill from going to down to stopping Charchill from going to for peace.