

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS Drew Pearson

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We Are Out-Voted

Our editorial suggestion that the citizenry be allowed to vote on the watersewer expansion program at the first possible moment, and that all other City bond matters be carried over to

city bond matters be carried over to a separate election in the Fall, has apparently failen on barren ground. City Manager Flack agreed with our reasoning, but the Council disagreed unanimously, not an unusual division of opinion in City Hall these days.

Having, as President Triman said of his own works, no particular pride of authorship in the proposal, we are quite willing to bury it here. But we do in said—and Council agrees, apparently—upon our inador premise, that nothing be allowed to interfere with bringing the sewer-water expansion matter to a vote at the earliest possible date. If the other non-emergency matters which raise the bond issue total to \$5,000.000 can be readled in time for presentation raise the bond issue total to \$5,000,000 can be readled in time for presentation during the first three weeks of April (the only open dates before the primaries) then we shall raise no further objection to their being lumped together.

gether.

In our original editorial we pointed out that the various non-emergency projects. coupled with the \$6,000,000 City-County school bond issue scheduled for a vote at about the same time, might jeopardize the water-sewer program. Council disagrees, pointing out that all the various, marters will be listed sep-arately anyway; and that any voter will have the right to strike out any that do not appeal to him. And that, of course, brings up another point. Isn't there a chance that the average Charlottean tremember how Scotch we are will in-stinctively reach for his pentil when he is confronted with two bond issues totalling si2(000000? And if he does start whittling the total what projects are likely to disappear first from his list?

It seemed to us, and it still does, that It seemed to us, and it still does, that the water-sewer matter, which we classify as essential and urgent, should not be expected to carry with it a variety of projects, classified as essential but not urgent. As Councilman White remarked, Council has a job of selling before it, and we only hope he is correct in his belief that it is as "easy to sell a big bill of goods as a small one."

of goods as a small one."

The important thing, of course, is to obtain approval for a bond issue big enough to underwrite the entire program proposed by the Planning Board and later embroidered by City Council, and it makes no particular difference whether it is obtained in two elections or one. It was only because we feared for the success of the program as a whole that we opened the debate on method. And, of course, this is once when we shall be delighted if we are proved wrong.

The Disfranchised Whites

A wisiful little proposal to repeal the poll tax in South Carolina was beat back in the House of Representatives this week by a 69-60 vote after having successfully passed the Senate This, we presume, will be regarded in certain circles as further evidence of the Palmetto State's backwardness, but there are others—and we cast our vote here—who find it rather encouraging that the measure ever came to a vote at all, that it passed the Senate, and that 40 good and true House members were willing to stand up and be counted as proponents. Although we have long doubted that

Although we have long gounced mat the actions of the well-bossed South Carolina Legislature are always representative of the will of our neighbors, we suspect that the poll tax vote is a fair indication of the general racial out-look in South Carolina. Poll tax repeal involves a great many factors other than the possibility of increasing the Narrow vote in centeral elections, but that vote in general elections, but that was the issue stated by Representative Calhoun Thomas in opposing the measure, and, we suspect, that was issue voted

whe, and, we suspect, that was issue voted on.

Poll tax repeal is only one of two electoral reforms now under discussion in South Carolina newspapers, if not in the Legislature. The other involves the guarantee of a secret ballot, and it is, we think, considerably more pertinent. A South Carolinian who desires to split his ticket in the general election can now do so, the old agreement that a vote in a Democratic primary involves a Democratic vote in the ment that a vote in a Democratic primary involves a Democratic vote in the general election having been waived, but he can't obtain a Republican ballot without announcing his desire in a loud voice in the voting place. This, in a state where the citizenery is generally presumed to be divided between Republicans and white men, is a bigger factor in keeping the State solidly Democratic than the poil tax. than the poll tax.

It is interesting to note that the

Christian Frontiers

We have received the first copy of the new publication, Christian Fron-tiers, published by the Baptist Book Club at Chapel Hill, and we find it a sprightly and interesting document. A good many topics are touched upon — Christian psychotherapy, the faith of Aldous Huxley, the place of the Bap-

Adous Huxley, the place of the Baptists in the labor-management crisis, the atomic bomb—and all are approached calmiy, intelligently, and with a minimum of the abstract theology that would repel the layman for whom the publication is primarily intended.

It is perhaps representative of the broad taste of the editors that one of the featured articles in the first edition is entitled "Hubba-Hubba". The piece, by Dr. Bernard D. Clausen, is a light but scholarly treatise which toes the new alang phrase to the progress of the human spirit, placing it properly as an expression of delight akin to Doubting Thomas "My Lord and my God". The good Doctor, we think, deserves some

From The Raleigh News & Observer:

loudest voices raised on behalf of secrecy are those—like the Charleston News & are those—like the Charleston News & Courier—who are dedicated to keeping the general election the private property of the whites. They are interested because they feel, probably correctly, that there are thousands of South Carolinians who would, out of their bitterness against the present Democratic administration, vote a national Republican ticket if they could do so without the neighbors finding out. In fact, since the general election, restricted as it now is by the poll tax, draws so few voters, it might even be possible to throw South Carolina's electoral vote into the Re-Carolina's electoral vote into the Republican column for the first time in history.

It's a strange campaign. Obviously, the

It's a strange campaign. Obviously, the proponents of the secret ballot don't want to see the Republican Party revived as a factor in local politics, for the Party would, of course, give the franchise to the Negro. What they do want is a chance to hold the white line by votting straight Democratic ticket for all offices short of the Presidency while still expressing their displeasure with the trend being followed by Mr. Roose-

well's heirs.

The legislature in South Carolina is dominated by gentlemen who have attained a delicate political balance and are bent on maintaining it, and we doubt if the secret ballot gets a better reception than did poll tax repeal. But the campaign in support of it provides doubt if the secret ballot gets a better reception than did poll tax repeal. But the campaign in support of it provides a commentary on the ironic political situation that has developed south of the border. A considerable number of South Carolinians, who have devoted years to the effort to disfranchise a huge segment of the population, now find themselves boxed in by their own handwork, chained to a Party that no longer represents their views and unable to make their weight fell in the determination of national policies that vitally concern them—in short, disfranchised themselves.

sort of special award for the delicate phraseology of this paragraph:

There is a clue to its meaning in a musical prelude which usually precedes the mysterious syllables. There is a long, swooping whistle, first up and then down the scale, expressing started, pleased surprise. Then follows the exclamation. "hubba-hubba" in awed and unbelievable delight at the recognition of a wonderful personality.

None of the contributors to the first

None of the contributors to the first issue of Christian Frontiers (they are all ministers) has relapsed into the ponderous prose that usually characterizes denominational publications, and all have shown considerable skill in relating the affairs of the spirit to the affairs of the world.

Christian Frontiers is off to a good start, and we have an idea the 4,000

start, and we have an idea the 4,000 copies of this first issue now being mailed to prominent Baptist laymen throughout the South will be well received. If

Crowtey, witnoss considered flus-lengths. May hank seemed flus-lengths. May hank seemed flus-lengths are seemed flus-with a smill explained that the gentleman did not say he as "the butter," but only was identifying himself as the Con-gressman from South Carolina. "Oh. I misunderstood," check-gies, Congressman. I'll fetch you a sootch and soda."

accumulation stopped on Sept. 2, V-J Day.
Patterson (surprised): "It did?"
Patterson, continuing: "You men certainly know a lot about demobil-ization."

certainly know a lot about demobilization."

G.I. reporter: "Rell yes, that's all we think about."

Privacily the newsmen commention of the comment of the commention of the commention of the commention of the comment of the comment

Bob Hannegan Is Now HST's Only 'No-Man'

A VERY peculiar thing has hap-pened to Bob Hannegan, the man who more than any other sin-



around the White
House.
A lot of people
who thought
Hannegan was
now changed their minds. He has
now changed their minds. He has
now changed their minds. He has
eth him fight, vigorous bock-stage
battles and he has always been on
the right side. He is honest, fearless, and usually right.
Fut while everyone expected

less, and usually right.

But while everyone expected
Hannegan to become the No. 1
strong man of the Truman Administration, inside fact right now
is that he is having a hard 'me
trying to retain any real vo; in
White House policy decisions.

There are two reasons for this

The roots processed for this control of the mistake of acceptions the nestmaster generaliship, which means long hard hours and a mass of detailed work, which, coupled with his chafman-stip of the Democratic National Committee, makes him about the busiest man in Washington.

Hannegan has become Trust and the state of the committee of the state of the thing of the state of the thing of the state of the thing of the thing of the thing of the thing of the United States. It is much easier to size, as Harry Hopkins once the United States. It is much easier to size, as Harry Hopkins once the United States. It is much easier to size, as Harry Hopkins once veit's few "no-men" was Joseph P. Kennedy, which was one reason he didn't last.

BOXING THE NO-MAN

BOXING THE NO-MAN

BOXING THE NO-MAN

So while Hannegan has mended political fences, a bevy of Missouri yes-men have moved into the palace and practically cut Hannegan. the big no-man, off from policy decisions.

policy decisions.

Whenever he does sit down at a
White House conference. Hannegan
raises so much cain that the palace
guard, especially Reconverter John
Shyder, gets red in the face and
hopes it will never see him again.

Snyder, gets red in the face and hopes it will never see him sgain. Tuman himself does not share the state of the state of

pay a reasonable wage to the steen where.

When the would do a little bouse-leaning around the Truman throne. He isn't saying whoes scalp he intends to get, but he's on the saying whose scalp he intends to get, but he's on the saying whose scalp he intends to get, but he's on the saying whose scale he intended to get, but he's on the saying when th

AFTER YOU, CONGRESSMAN

AFTER YOU, CONGRESSMAN At a recent cocktail party given by Senator and Mrs. Bursten Maybank of South Carolina, the hostess was introducated to the senate of the senate when a slightly-built, bald-headed man stuck out his hand.

"I'm Butler Hrrc" he said, a scalch had cond."

"I'm butler dod."

Teetotalling Hare laughed, but declined the offer,

SECRETARY OF WAR FUMBLES Most controversial press conference in months was that in which can be seen as the seen as



Dorothy Thompson

Miss Thompson Asks A Few Questions

or other reasons of the reasons of t BROAD RESPONSIBILITY

"Granting your lack of experience Miss Snodgrass, there are some things we assume need no explanation!"

NEW YORK methods of re-education about motical, social, and food conditions; about the extent of industrial recovery in the Ruhr; about the nature and incidence of crime about the new trade union setup, and even the paper being Eug-NO SOURCE HERE

NO SOURCE HERE
Can any American gain access
every fortnight of smaller information about the American zone?
We knew what our meir were doing during the war. Do we now?
And if we did, could we not correspond with them more intelligently, increase their interest by
indicating our own, and bolster
their dignify by our realization
retal and more difficult than
those of war?

What You bustance, is our policy

those of war?

What, for instance, is our policy toward German trade unions? is true, as I have heard prominent American labor leaders vehement; in this field is Sidney Hillman, that he has successfully prevented the creation of independent unions, the creation of independent unions of the creation of the cre

that set by in the Russian zonic?

IS IT TRUE?

IS 18 true, as American jabor circles also assert, that the carried division which has access to all information about German industrial firms, structures, and financiary of the control of the contr

former Washington representation of the United Electrical Workershas the closest connections with the American Communists, and that both the cartel and finance divisions have American Communists or close sympathizers in in-

REVOLT BREWING?

ment?

REVOLT BREWING?

Is it true, finally, that as the result of policies for which Moscow-first gentlemen in our own suffices responsible resolution of the result of policies for which Moscow-first gentlemen in our own suffices are responsible resulting to exchange one anti-Christian tyranny over the lives and consciences of their flocks for another, and that their flows the resulting for power?

I do not make charges, I only the resulting for power?

I do not make charges a not proposed to the resulting for powers and immediate access to information, and that for the American cluzen no reports, half as ennoted as those which reach the resulting the resulting like as much the resulting the resulting like as much control exercised by American public opinion over policies in the American gone as there is the public opinion in the like the public opinion in the like the resulting the resultin

'Considerable Distaste'

BROAD RESPONSIBILITY
An article in the December 8th such responsibility from the Prillah zone as the responsibility and the prillah zone as the responsibility will be assigned to the prillah zone as the left to come which can be left to come as the prillah zone as the left to come as the prillah zone as the left to come as the prillah zone as the left to come as the prillah zone as the left to come as the left

FORT BRAGG
with considerable mile pratting, in most certainty is seen of the mile pratting. Although by intended he infers that at one time he too, was a that at one time he too, was a characteristic member of the armed forces, his many 1946, which is that at one time he too, was a characteristic member of the armed forces, his member of his military life, and to your other the properties of the many properties. There he too could serve without danger. Then he would be in a position to distinct the many properties of the many properties. There he too could serve without danger. Then he would be in a position to distinct the many properties of the many properties. The properties of the many properties of the many properties of the many properties of the many properties. The many properties of the many properties. The many properties of the many properties. The many properties of the many pr

he wishes to serve.
T/4 Samuel Epstein
T/3 Kermit R. Schleifer
T/5 Thomas F. Coyue, II
T/5 Waiter H. J. Bauhof
T/5 Stanley Buintjen
T/3 Clement T. McGuire
T/4 Gerald W. Greenwelt

(NOTE: Leonard Hall certainly had this left hook coming, and we're delighted to see it delivered so effectively.—Eds., The News)

Quote, Unquote

ONE of the gravest charges that can be made against the whole New Deal regime is that time and time again it has played politics with the groceries American housewives need to feed their families.

—Rep. John Phillips, California.

Marquis Childs

Another Brass Hat Takes Over

who is leaving the commission to be president of the Air Transport Association.

- WARREN COMPLAINS

Busichings of discontent with the commission of the Computer of the Compu

tered Democratics, is said to be a registered Democrat.

Among the important rate cases soon to be decided by the commission is one involving the Alaska Steamship Co., which has a Alaska and the contilental mathem of the United States. The company is seeking a rate increase in the face of vigorous protests from Alaska's Governor Ernest Gruening and Delegate E. L. Bartlett, who insists that the company's rates are already too high.

RATE INCREASE

RATE INCREASE

Nominally, at least all merchant shipping companies have been operated by the War Shipping Administration of which Land was administration. Therefore, it is the War War Shipping Administration, a Government agency, which comes before the Maritime Commission to ask for higher rates.

The probability is that the companies will be returned to their private owners in March. The Alaska Steamship Co. would then get less benefit of the increase.

The Alaska Schembilly Co-would then get is benefit of the increase.

The request was blocked when it first came up by a new member of the commission. Raymond S. McKeough. McKeough whose appointment was bitterly contested in the appointment was bitterly contested in the with the CIO's Political action Commisce, aid he could see no reason for haste.

McKeough spent the Christmas holidays in the Middle West. When he returned to Washington, he found that a hearing had know the cause for auch speed.

There has been a great deal of talk about vectorans settling in Alaska. Delegate Bartlett feels so strongly about high rates and the strength of the second process of the second pro

Samuel Grafton

The Pattern Is Familiar

can have no answer. For certainly every legal rad has either blown up in the faces of the legislaters shipped in the faces of the legislaters of has boomeranged, turning opposite effect to that in common the common state of the legislaters of has boomeranged, turning opposite effect to that in common state of the common stat

QUEER THINGS HAPPEN

OUER THINGS HAPPEN

For the queerest things happen when Congress goes to work on labor. Compulsory arbitration is proposed, and bot. Compulsory arbitration is proposed, and better the proposed of the propos

Weak and strong; hot and cold; freedom and curbs; it does not add up; and we some-and curbs; it does not add up; and we some-and curbs; it does not add up; and we some-and up to the source of the so

The Owners Should Act

For more than three months the men and women in the Erwin Cotton Mills have been out on a strike because they were offered what they call "a stretch-out" system. They have lost about \$2.00,000 (at the would have come to them in wages. In this time the mills have failed to learn well over \$500,000 (at the rate of former earnings before taxes which would have come to them if the mills had been in operation. Such a situation does not speak well for the boasted good condition in industry in North Carolina.

During these long months, the public officials have taken no effective action to promote industrial peace and pros-

perous conditions. The Federal officials perous conditions. The Federal officials have been so engaged with greater industrial disputes in the North they have given little attention to this smaller trouble. Comparatively it is small but not small to the 5,000 employees who, have been without, wages and whose families have had to stifut themselves.

families have had to stint themselves.

The workers have offered to arbitrate.

The officers of the companies (who own comparative) little of the stock) have declined to submit to arbitration. This is mexcusable if they have the power.

If they do not feel they should arbitrate, the real owners—all very rich—should at once instruct the officers to solve all matters by arbitration.