

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS Drew Pourson

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1946

A Welcome Decision

the Gaston County politicos, under thich Mecklenburg elected the Judge and Gaston elected the Solicitor, and,

and Gaston elected the Solictor, and, even though it is some 40 years over-due, the action is nonetheless welcome. County Chairman Scarborough spoke well when he announced this morning that the time had come to give the voters of Mecklenburg a voice in the election of their chief law enforcement effects and by statement coming on. election of their chief law enforcement officer. And his statement, coming on the beels of Bar Association President Adams' announcement that his organization will support the formation of a separate judicial circuit for Meckienburg, will go a long way toward oiling the creaking wheels of local justice. The way is now open for the correction of a court situation that has grown progressively worse as the number and the criminal inclinations of Meckienburgers increased over the vears. Re-

irgers increased over the years. Re-

districting, the only method of decreasing the great volume of court business,
is the obvious answer, and the Demois the Solicitor, and,
some 49 years overnonetheless welcome.
Is Scarborough spoke
used this morning the task now assigned him. Gaston may the task now assigned him. Gaston may be coming out on the short end of the political stick temporarily, but in the end the County stands to gain as much as Mecklenburg by the termination of this strange, private agreement. Reopening the Solicitorial election to all qualified candidates in the District is as logical as it is just. The action of the County Democratic Committee and the Bar Association will not correct the

the Bar Association will not correct tangled court situation in itself, ove the last political obit should remove the last pointed of jection to the redistricting proposal scheduled for presentation to the Legis-lature in 1947.

The Mud Grows Deeper

merits of the argument in favor of county control of county roads raised

merits of the argument in favor of county control of county roads raised by the Mecklenburg farmers (and radio announcers) when they called on the Governor this week, it is not because we fear that a delegation of mody-footde gentlemen will come calling, but because the issue is too complicated for off-hand settlement.

Noboby can successfully ignore the compaint of the Mecklenburg farmers, and of those from other Piedmont counties, for there is no doubt that the back-country roads are now in a disgraceful condition. However, the feeling of the Mecklenburgers that they are not receiving a fair share of the road approportations in the State is backed by nothing more tangible than their Instance, and it isn't borne out by figures produced in Raleigh by the State Highway Department.

stinct, and it ian't borne out by figures produced in Raleigh by the State Highway Department.

The argument that taxes should be spent for the direct benefit of those from whom they are collected is obviously fallacious. A portion of the money derived from the sale of liquor in wet counties goes into the general fund of the State and dry old McK-lenburg benefits thereby; if the theory were carried to its ultimate absurdity it might be held that all liquor revenue should be spent for public Keeley Cure ould be spent for public Keeley Cure shed in the direct in nstitutes established in the direct in-erest of the liquor tax-payer: The question of returning county

The question of returning county roads to county control, however, is well worth debating. Governor Cherry regards such a project as a distinct backward step and one that would complicate, not relieve the problem. A good many newspapers support his view; The Winston-Salem Journal points out that "we tried county construction and maintenance of these roads for a long, long

If we have no fixed opinion on the merits of the argument in favor of mounty control of county roads raised by the Mecklenburg farmers (and selfon proponers) when they called on the way to get equality of highway facilities for the people of North Carolina."

facilities for the people of North Caro-lina."

But there is a strong case to be made in fayor of county control, with abun-dant proof available in South Carolina, where the road net, both county and state, is far superior to ours. South Carolina counties, receiving only about 20 per cent of the gasoline tax col-lected locally as compared with the 50 per cent demanded by the Meck-lenburg delegation, retain full responsi-bility for all except through state high-

so per cent demanated by the seeks-lenburg delegation, retain full responsibility for all except through state high-ways, and most of them have hauded themselves out of the mud in the past two decades. Doubtless, there has been considerable waste and inefficiency, but the roads are there.

To a mud-bound family on a remote farm Raiegh seems a long way to go for action, and certainly, from their standpoint, it would be preferable to have road responsibility vested in their more responsive county government. If they are to be convinced of the destability of state control, some method must be worked out to make the Highway Commission more cognizant of their problem, and less inclined to spend a disproportionate share of its limited as disproportionate share of its limited. a disproportionate share of its limited

a disproportionate share of its limited income on through highways.
Unless the Highway Commission Proves its capacity for real improvement of rural roads within the next twelve months there is certain to be a determine effort at the next Legislative session to return county roads to county control. Were inclined to favor the present system, but the important thing is to get better roads. The counties may not do much better, but most farmers will agree that they can't do much worse.

The Paradox Again

This begins to look like the day we receive our degree as a curbstone lawyer, but we can't let the Shooting of Grace

but we can't let the Shooting of Grace
Orr pass unremarked.
The trial of Charles Monroe Hunter,
the 84-year-old grandfather-in-law of
the victim, unfolded in Superior Court
Wednesday like a figment of Erskine
Caldwell's imagination. According to the
State's star witness, Grandfather Hunter, primed with his daily diet of six
or eight bottles of beer and outraged
because Grace had rejected his offer
of marriage, walked into her kitchen
and "asked her if she was ready to of marriage, walked into her successful of marriage, walked into her successful even answer and "asked her if she was ready to die and before she could even answer he shot her down." According to Grand-father, Grace, on a drunken spree, elouted him over the head with a chair rung and was rushing him with a butcher knife when his tumb slipped off the hammer and he killed her ac-cidentally, and in self-defense. The State's eye-witness, he conceded, was present, but was so drunk himself he couldn't see what was going on.

This saga led Judge W. H. S. Burg-wyn to muse aloud on the manners of more's of this Christian community. "In this country there are more murders, more drunks, more criminal assaults,

more crime than in any other country in the world, and Charlotte rates right near the top, on a per capita basis, al-though this is reported to be second to the greatest church-going town in the world ..."

world . . "
Because we are given to brooding over
the same paradox, we are reasonably
sympathetic with the Solomonic sentence handed down by Judge Burgwyn after a jury found Grandfather Hunter guilty of manslaughter. In view of his 4 years, almost any paid of years almost any paid of years almost any paid by the law and have been tantamount to a death sentence. But the Court couldn't condone the casual shooting of grand-daughters-in-ab wy letting him go free, and the Judge finally ordered him to spend a year in the County Home. Frankly, we don't know what we would have done with Grandfather Hunter if we had faced Judge Burgwyn's unhappy choice, but we feel that the other in-mates of the County Home have a right to protest having a convictor felors having a convictor felors. after a jury found Grandfather Hun

to protest having a convicted felon sento protest having a convictor from sen-tenced to Joia their hapless company. Surely there must be a more fitting spot for the old man to spend his last years, and it seems to us the court has a clear obligation to find it.

From The Twin City Sentinel:

Candid But Just?

The Charlotte News says editorially ous hypocrite if it said that it regretted

our hypocrite if it said that it regretted the passing of John G. Carpenter, the solicitor, but adds that it sincerely regrets the passing of John G. Carpenter, the man.

This is one of the most honest and candid editorial statements be a ring upon the death of a prominent man that we have seen lately. The News endeavors to do full justice in the way of tribute to Mr. Carpenter as an individual. It remarks upon his warm heart, his geniality, his inability to hold anger, but points out that these very qualities hindered rather than helped him in his office as State proceduing attorney. Carpenter was of the defender type of personality. He was a quare peg in the round hole, as The Nees sees it.

If this was true of Carpenter, his case was not unique. But that is aside from our present purpose, which is not to discuss differences in individual attridiscuss differences in individual attri-butes and personalities, but simply to observe in passing that the Charlotte newspaper has given us a refreshing variation in the way of writing edi-torial comment upon the dead, a va-riation which at least seeks to pay tribute to one's real virtues, while mak-ing no effort to whitewash the spots wherein he was weak, as the writer, seek it.

The jurisdiction of the great Petrillo in the radio field comes under the Congressional eye. Noting the latest of Jimmy's many carrist decrees, a California legislator moves to modulate the frequency of same.

Jimmy Byrnes' New Set-Up In The Cabinet

milites, consistently of the Secretary of the Secretary of the Secretary of War. the Secretary of the Navy of the Secretary of State of the Secretary of Secretary of State of Secretary of Sec

and Navy, almost more State Department, dictat policy toward Japan.

However, never before has there been an official Cabinet committee to advise on foreign policy such as that now being worked out by Byrnes.

mittee to advise on foreign policy such as that now being worked out by Byrnes. Beind the move is the control of the control o

ingle volunteers.

"The present allotments for service wives with children aren't enough to support us anyhow, General," she said. "Why not discharge all the fathers so you can use the allotment money for the purpose of attracting volunteers to the property of the purpose of attracting volunteers."

"Just what are the family allotments for enlisted men?" inquired Eisenhower.

inquired Eisenhower.

A question like this coming from
the Chief of Staff of the Army
caused his callers to stare at each
other. Mrs. Mueller hastened to
explain that the wife of an enlisted man with one child receives
\$89, \$100 if she has two children.
Re didn't bother to allbi his slip,
though he looked a bit flustered.

\$80, \$100 if she has two children. Ite didn't bother to allul his slip, though he looked a bit flustered.

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we would like to meet at lunch
proble he would like to read.
Finally, FDR instead this
FINALLY, FDR instead
FINALLY, F



She Asked For It

Dorothy Thompson

The Strikes And Our World

NEW YORK MR. FAIRLESS of United States Steel went to the root of the issues in the strikes, and accepted both labor's and Government's for-mulation of it:

Government's for-mulation of it: How great a rise in wages can the American econ-omy stand while maintaining the present level of prices? That is the "fact finding" for which the Presi-dent has appoint-ed a commission. But to assess

dent has appointed a commission.

But to assess the facets, moved, the facets, moved, and the facets are to the facets are to the facets are the facets are

COSTLY STRIKES

The strikes are terribly costly to the strikers. GM workers who to the atrikers. Old workers who have been out over ten weeks, have been out over ten weeks, have been out over ten weeks, have to be the cover for years even were their owner of the cover for years even were the loss to American production and thus to the nation is fabulous. Since the issue can be formulated, and since everyone. U. S. Steep habor, and Government, are agreed habor, and Government, are agreed posterious if a settlement cannot be made on the basis of reason, instead of one who can resist until unconditional surrender.

unconditional surrender.

on productivity, and is taking into on productivity, and is taking into consideration the maintenance of a stable price level, is a step for-

ward. It shows proper consideration for the whole economy. It is tutude is insincere, though it is bount
tude is insincere, though it is bound
bias. So, for the matter, have
the employers a bias. But they
should remember that for masses
sacred cow. Everyone is now
aware that other sorts of economite exist, and that our sort in
the world as a whole, is not wintine world as a whole, is not wintine world as a whole, is not wintine three three three three
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PUBLIC ENTERPRISE

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Frivate enterprise is a misnomer

for the system we have. Corpora
ment of the system we have. Corpora
ment than the inhabitants of a

large city, and have stockholders

approximating half a million, are

Nine-tenths of the people of the

United States are not capitalists.

They may own stocks in corpora
tions, but they have no control
they may own stocks in corpora
tions, but they have no control
they may own stocks are incorpora
tions, but they have no control
they may control they are a

more concerned about the fate of

more concerned about the fate of

more concerned about the fate of

fell jobs, the prices they must

pay for food, shelter and clothes,

and the taxes which are subtracted from their earnings, than in the annual dividend reports from the bank. Industry's public relations counsels often seem curiously out of touch with the people to whom they address their case.

counses the secondary of the whom they address their case.

To BE THANKFUL

We have so much for which to be thankful. . . The survival of most of our sons; a country without a single city or countryside devastated; a production machine we need or can consume, and capable of replacing every obsolescent home, building, machine, and plant; a reconstruction job for ourselves are construction job for ourselves are reconstruction job for ourselves are reconstruction job for ourselves are reconstruction job for ourselves are few cents an hour are costing us worth of real things, and benefit-ing only the speculators and black market profiteers. The struggles how proping the proping on a greater and more extending the structure of productivity, and get going on a greater and more extending that than that of were balances of nations, but were if the most fortunate of peoples should be weighed and found wanting.

The People's Platform

Another Blast For Hall

Charlotte
ITEREWITH an open letter to
It your columnist, Leonard Hall;
Dear Mr. Hall;

Dear Mr. Hall:
Your column interested me slightly until recently when you started
making digs at overseas GTs. Now
it maussates me beyond description.
You will be started to the started of the starte

No doubt you are too old to be in the Army, but it surely could use a few suckers like you who would not have courage enough to stand up for your rights. You and 4-Fg who claim to know so much about everything in general should swap places with any solder overseas for just one month. Cone week would be your column you.) I wonter how your column

By LAURA MeLAIN
Charlotte
REWITH an open letter to pour columnist, Leonard Hall:
Mr. Hall:
ur column interested me slightprivile coulty when own stated for a change. Like many others. I am glad the

soldiers have guts en souters have guts enough to stick up for themselves. (And, inciden-tally, I am not a "Mom.") The Army has pushed them around like cattle and lied to them for years. The Army has actually forced them to stage the demonstrations you referred to in your article of Jan referred to in your article of Jan. 21, 1986. If they had been treated as men who have fought a war should be treated they would have no cause for such demonstrations. No. Mr. Ball, those soldiers begging to be brought home are not consider the properties of the p

Bevin's Against

TheCommunists THE character of Britain's Minister, Ernest Bevin, i



That was illustrated some time so in the apport of a delegation of the come of

The British trade unionists found that trade union officials in Russia were as much concerned with increasing pay on a job was a superior of the pay on a job was little discussed by the trade union committee and the management. If they failed to agree, the case was referred to the central council of the union, which in turn took it was the pay of the

conflict with the management or the State authorities.

SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

These British Laborites who believe in Socialism. or, perhaps more accurately, social democracy, concluded their report as follows:

In the social democracy, concluded their report as follows:

In many differ to some extent in a Socialist State from what they are in a Capitalist State from the workers a povernmental shame to be a considered from the state in the State is all powerful and all-wise. In their view, the rights of the individual and the Organizations of which he is a part—trade unlong church and so on—cannot be preserved under such a system.

Bertram Benedict

Peace After World Wars

"... saying peacer peace, when there is no peace." The lament of dereniah seems particularly appropriate how, five months store V-J Day. Into the dereniah seems particularly appropriate how, five months after V-J Day. Into the accordance when the months of the control of the

Iran—Threat of force behind Soviet pres-aure.

Turkey—Threat to fight before yielding to Soviet demands.

China—Desultory fighting, despite Gov-eriment-Communist truce.

Koree—Armed unrest.

IT HAS BEEN WORSE

Korea—Armed unrest.

However, this gloomy record becomes almost rosy when it is compared with the situation in the six months following the six mo

THE LITTLE FELLOWS

Freshon—Guerrias was against British rule. Egypt—Revish against British rule forces in the property of the pro by U. S. Marines.

Compared with the aftermath of World War I, then, the state of the world in 1945 doesn't look too bad.



"Now, Otis, when you meet father try to make a good impression—try to let him think he knows as much as you do!"

