

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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The Battle Over Zoning At one point in the somewhat disorderly hearing before Council the charge was brought that the zoning ordinance, or any zoning ordinance, is a "fassist act which won't do nobody no good." The evidence, however, is all against this argument. Charlotte is now the only city in the United States of 100,000 or more population which does not have a zoning ordinance, and so far as we can ascertain the Black Shirts have not taken over any of the others.

OPPONENTS of a zoning ordinance for Charlotte have been fighting their usual good fight, no holds barred. They failed to move the Zoning to the grained to move the Zoning to the guard won on the grained with the state of the guard which went along with they do have a bridghead inside Councill; Councilmen childs and Hinson blocked passage of the measure this week and have indicated that they will oppose it when it comes up for what may be a final vote on Tuesday.

What we are hearing, of course, is the familiar debate which pitches private interest against public interest. Councilman Newson summed it up when he said: "All the protests have coine, as they always do, from a few who are going to be hurt. And while I am sympathetic to you feligate. I feel that my allegiance is due the majority of the people of Charlotte whom I was chosen to represent." Some of the opponents have objected to Some of the opponents nave objected to specific provisions of the zoning law, but the most vociferous critics are battling the whole business, lock, stock and set-back provision. These gentlemen make no bones about being interested parties; builders and developers for the most part, they argue that their private plans will be upset and one of them estimated at the latest hearone of them estimated at the latest hear-ing that he would be out of pocket \$50,000 if the law is adopted.

Any other position, it seems to us, is going to be extremely difficult to defend.

A Wheelhorse Gets The Nod

THE orderly processes of seniority take care of most key jobs in the North Carolina Legislature, and seniority also provides a ready answer when the West complains that the East seems to pluck an undue share of the plums. The voters of the West are an impatient lot, and they or the west are an impacted to an arrange of the real leave an Assemblyman in office long enough for him to move into position to receive the nod from his fellows.

to receive the nod from his fellows.

Joe Blythe of Mecklenburg is one of the exceptions that prove the rule. He went to the State Senate in 1939, and his constituents have never found any reason to replace him. During those years his Senatorial colleagues in Raleigh have found many reasons to respect and admire the portly and amiable gentleman from Mecklenburg. This week they gave their hich regard for Senator Blythe substance by naming him, without opposition, president pro tempore, the highest of fifee they can bestow upon one of their own.

This is a post of considerable honor, of course, and of more importance than you

might think in view of the fact that President Pro Tem Bytheis principal at at ed duty is to preside over the Senate in the absence of the Lieutenant Governor. Actually his elevation to the post stands as formal recognition of his status as a legislative wheelmore, a steady and reliable operator who swings a deal of influence and knows how to use it when the going sets rough. When the speeches are being made the gentleman from Mecklenburg is rarely in evidence; when the decisions are being reached, on the floor or off it, he is never absent.

never absent.

Joe Blythe also occupies a permanent place on every speculative list of gubernatorial possibilities. Whether he has ambitions in that direction or not, we don't know, certainly there have been few signs in the past that he has sought to implement them. It remains to be seen whether he new honor that has been given him crowns his public career or is only a milestone in it. At any rate his constituents are delighted that the honor has come at last to one who has served his county and his state so well and so unobstrusively.

Oil Under Troubled Waters

TTS been a good while since anybody set out with a willow wand to locate an oi well, but pursuit of the elusive fluid still remains a long and romantic gamble. Ex-pensive too, as the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey points out in a handsome little brochure called The Story of North Carolina Esso Number One.

Carolina Esso Number One.

Esso Number One was a delayed war baby. In the mad search for new fields in the East after German submarines threat-ened to cut the tanker lines, Standard Oil geologists found some promising signs of oil along the North Carolina coast. The Big and Little Inch Pipe Lines removed some of the pressure, however, and Standard didn't get around to drilling until November 1945. Esso Number One went down at a point 1,620 feet southwest of the old-Hatteras Light on the Outer Banks.

Before the crew gave up they had drill-ed to a depth of 8,516 feet, 50 rock bits had been worn baldheaded, a whole passel of na-tive Bankers had been trained in the arts and sciences of oll-well operation, and

\$477,000 had been spent, exclusive of the cost of leases and geological re #c a rc h. About all Standard got out of it was a series of readings on the dials and meters which are the modern counterpart of the willow wand.

"It was difficult, troublesome and expen-"It was difficult, troublesome and expensive, but well worthwhile." the little brochure sums up. "The knowledge gained by this test has confirmed the judgment of Standard's geologists and justifies furthers search for oil in northeastern North Carolina." The search to undersway now, from a water-borne rig Hoating offshore in Parilleo Sound. And Standards heads \$25,000 a months to drill under water as acainst \$10,000 to maintain a dry land crew,

If Esso Number Two brings in a gusher If Esso Number Two brings in a gusher the peaceful, remote Banks may become the nation's next boom area. But that, of course, is crossing bridges far in advance. Standard ends The Story of Esso Number One with the line: "Once again, let us say that the odds against finding petroleum are very, very long..."

Another Voice

One Of The Great Freedoms

IF Representative John E. Rankin means what he says teachers—especially those in colleges and universities—may have more than low salaries and the high cost of living to worry about. The House Committee on un-American Activities may be on their trail.

Mr. Rankin says he will "enlist the aid of patriotic organizations, including vet-erans' groups, to drive from our educa-tional institutions those 'pink' professors who are subsidized from questionable sources." He doesn't name these sources.

Now there may be a very few college professors with Communist leanings. If so, and if their laint be proved, the very aggressiveness of the Communist doctrine would make them undesirable. Much more numerous, probably, are teachers whose social and economic views would be found social and committee, but still considerably to Communism, but still considerably to Communism, but which is may disagree with them, but we question his right to "purge" them.

But the most serious danger inherent in Mr. Rankin's intentions is the ease with which a hunt for subversive teachings can degenerate into an attack on "academic freedom."

The danger exists primarily because academic freedom is something that relatively few people understand. It does not imply freedom to press a teacher's personal beliefs upon students who must and listen whether they like them or not. and issen whether they like them or non-fredom to look at an is-sue—however controversial—from all sides, to dig for facts, no matter how unpleasant those facts may turn out to be for some-body. It does mean nurturing the spirit

of inquiry and the objective, judicial view.

of ignuity and the objective, judicial view. Such eserching for knowledge and for the fruits of mankind's experience is no less than a client the ranks with freedom of speech and the ranks with the ranks with the ranks of the ranks with the ranks of the ranks with ranks

We would heartily agree that any weeds of subversive teaching should be uprooted. But the past record of the committee which Mr. Rankin dominates—and regrettably, of some of the veterans' organizations whose aid he seeks—makes us question whether that body has the perspicativy to do the hat body has the perspicativy to do the proportion, to the gardens of education.

portion, to the gardens of education. The colleges and universities are named as the immediate targets. But once let loose, intolerance and bipotry can spread through all levels of the school system. In fact, letters to this newspaper indicate that it is already spreading. Teachers are deserting the calling they love not only because they are skimped in the pocket-book. Many refuse to go on when they must teach that which violates or fails to satisfy their sense of the integrity of the mind.—Christian Science Monitor.

The question arises what a Kansas City thief can do with a haul of 450 pennies. Thus loaded down, one can't get the cor-rect score on a weighing machine, even.





People's Platform

On Juvenile Delinquency

I WOULD very much like to know the answer to this question:

this question:

What kind off temporary quarters have we in Charlotte for delinquent youth?

The heart rending description of such places in other cities by Albert Maisle, "America's Forgotten", in Woman's Home Companion, made me ashamed I did not know.

did not know.

There is a judge of the Juvenile Court in Memphis so honored by the citizens because of her wonderful success in reclaiming delinquent children that they have put up for her the kind of building she wanted. She has demonstrated low is the greatest bowered. Children world. Children when the companion of the citizens for Memphis instead of menaces.

fine citizens for Memphis instead carri nave made

I heard this attractive woman speak in Jackson,
Mis, as she had been called there to give them some
new ideas in dealing with youth. She Just gave the
say Christ gave.

Some of our fine men in Charlotte at one time
are responsible for some boy who had made a bad
start. I am sure the valse, kind help siven when it
was sorely needed. I hope such worthwhile efforts
are being made now.

ROSE BLANDOW -ROSE BLANTON.

(NOTE: There is no central detention home for juveniles in Mecklenburg. There is a system of placement in private homes for juveniles awaiting for the properties of the prope

Minimum Wage Law

Editors, The News:

Thank Two very much for the splendid editorial on Thank Two very much for the splendid editorial on Saturday, Jan, 4, issue of The Charlotte News. I am certain that this is one of the best expositions on the value of such legislation, the need for it and the reasons why it would be beneficial eligibility.

—FORREST II. SHUFORD.

-FORREST H. SHUFORD, N. C. Commissioner of Labor.

Pay Increase

WHITEVILLE

Editors, Tur News:

THE Columbus County Teacher

Unit of NOEA

met in Whiteville, N. G., Jan. 7 for the purpose
of discussing the general legislative program to be
presented to the convening Legislative Audica

More a force of the convening Legislative Audica

motion to have a local membership fee for teachers,
any or all of which may be used in support of the
legislative program.

The following resolution was adopted:

The following resolution was adopted:

The following the past fee years and recent months
and

Whereas the salary of teachers is not commen-

ment and

Whereas the present salary scale is too small to
entice new teachers to go into the profession or to
hold many of the already qualified teachers, and

Whereas we feel that the State of North Carolina
is able to give its children and the teachers who
teach them a square deal.

We hereby resolve that the Columbus County Unit of the NCEA indorse unanimously the South Piedmont Plan asking for a 40 per cent increase in salaries of school percental Plan asking for a re procession of the personnel.

—C. H. PINNER, President
F. F. THOMPSON, Sec. & Treas.

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be a superior of the properties of the prope

Wishful Thinking

Wishful Thinking

So having entered the fairy's charlot and been deposited in the White House and in fact become President Truman, what would I do? I would hank the fairy for his or her thoughtfulness in set a good nicht's steen, ..., The first thing next a good nicht's steen, ..., The first thing next a good nicht's steen, ..., or first thing next a good nicht's steen, ..., or first thing next was press day or not. Then I would say: "Gentlemen, nation for the Presidency, No for nomination by any other party. I shall not be a candidate for the Presidency, Ny purpose it to become so free during say to think about any nomination or election, as a president. I shall have no other Vesire than to find out as mear as possible what there was not marked to the presidency and the steen of the fair of the control o

Marquis Childs

Battle Of The Budget

WASHINGTON
THE Battle of the Budget will
be fought at three different
levels. The end is likely to be
confused on the confused of the confused
confused on the confused of the confused
confused on the confused of the confused of the confused of the confused on the confus

scalpel.

Level No. 2, halfway up, is the estimate of Sen. Robert A. Taft, chairman of the Republican Committee on policy in the Senate. Taft believes that a rough total of \$32,000,000,000 will be ample for all the needs of the Government in counting runs this way.

The Armed Services. 32,000,000. The Armed Services: \$12,000,000,-

Veterans: \$7,000,000,000

Service on the debt: \$5,000,000,-

OVER-GENEROUS?

OVER-GENEROUS?
The last figure is, in Taft's optinion, perhaps even over-generous. Certainly, he thinks, it is more than eaough so cover the proper functions of the Federal machine. It would include a half billion dollars for foreign loans in addition to the commitment already made to Great British.

Great Britain.

Level Number 3, at the top of the budgetary mountain, is the official estimate which President Truman will send to Congress. Advance reports put that at \$37,000,000,000—from 5 to 5 1/2 billion above the maximum that Taft believes essential.

sential.

One difference between the Taft and the Truman budgets is in the amount of debt to be retired. Advance reports put that figure, in the official budget, at \$2,000,000,000,000,000 is allowed for debt reduction.

tion.

But the sharpest difference between the Democrat in the White House and the Republicans on Capitol Hill is likely to be over tax reduction. It appears that Rep. Harduction. It appears that Rep. Harduction in the income tax has much cut in the income tax has had a cut in the income tax has had a cut in the income tax had a cut in the income tax had a cut in the in

wider support than at first appeared probable. In the Senate, including Taff, lean toward this figure. The findustrious Senator from Ohlo bea careful rationalization to justife 20 per cent slash. He beam find that present his proper brackets, in the control of the control of

sake-home salary he received before high taxes.

DIMINISHING RETURNS

That also argues that present
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the present salary that the sa

Samuel Grafton

Truman And GOP

THE REPUBLICANS are being rather charming about Provident Truman's message. Speaker Martin praises its "the co-operative spirit." Mr. B. Carroll Republication of the provident Truman's message. Speaker Martin praises its "the co-operative spirit." Mr. B. Carroll Republication of the co-operative spirit. Mr. B. Carroll Republication of Committee, a man who is saimost required by occupational considerations to turn pink with a spirit of the spirit

ing upon it.
PURRING EXPECTED

FURRING EXPECTED

A cresteff amount of Republican
purring is to bee expected, because
it is in the nature of all of us to
make organic response when petwill continue only so long as to
make organic response when petwill continue only so long as to
will continue only so long as to
make organic more peting in the
peting does. And the GOP will, It
hink, demand more peting in the
meximgs and leader whimperings
to the effect that it would be nice
if the President showed a little
more in the peting of the period
and a little more unity about cutting income taxes, and a little more
unity about quiving up universal
unity about giving up universal
proach to the armchair is tentative, but one rubbed it demand
the hand on its ear as a matter of
zight.

right while there is something comming in the Republican reaction to the President's term paper, and in the little love noises which warm the Washington air, the new unity must, I think, be watched as a process, and studied as a trend. It is an odd thing about unity, that one can sometimes love as much in a unity as in a battle. It is still an unique deed question

LABOR LEFT OUT

LANDR LEFF OUT

And when one considers, also,
that there is almost no labor participation in the pew unity one
again has the feeling that these
when the second of the second of the
feeling that these
when the second of the second of the
for its omissions. And so one
follows the new love after with a
the for its omissions. And so one
follows the new love after with a
sever, but it it is also star-crossed,
almost as sure to be mauled up
research from the outsider, as it is
likely to be form by temions from
within.

Drew Pearson's: Truman Seems In Unfailing Good Humor Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

IVERY White House caller these days comes out of the
Inner sanctum remarking on now well and high-spirited
President Truman looks. Expecting him to appear bowed
and discouraged by the weight of his office, they remark:

"He doesn't seem to have a care for the they remark:

"He doesn't seem to have a care for the they remark:

"He doesn't seem to have a care for the truman
Cabinet members were worried sick over the economic consequences to the country White House callers came out to
report that the President seemed to be in fine fettle.

Persident feels that the Republicans have removed part of
the responsibility of leadership from his shoulders. No matter what he does, it can't be right in GOP eyes; therefore,
the responsibility of leadership from his shoulders. No matter what he does, it can't be right in GOP eyes; therefore,
Another explanation is that, since November, Truman
feels he is no longer under any obligation to carry on the
Roosevel! New Doal program. The November balloting
strate that white House advisors, so Truman has a mandate to desert the Roosevell program for his own.

Whatever the explanation, the President seems to be
the height of good humor at all times, deliver this State of
The Union message, he was bantering with Republican Senstors who asked whether he would propose a program which
Republicans could support.

The state of the President seems to be
the best of good humor at all times, deliver this State of
The Union message, he was bantering with Republican Senstors who asked whether he would propose a program which
Republicans could support.

Good remarks and the state of the Congress."

Government In Exile

A DISTINGUISHED group of ex-New Dealers were gathered at a meeting of the Union for Democratic Action

Boris Shishkin, chief economist for the AFL, strode into the room. Taking one look at the distinguished group he remarked:

"The government in exile!" Who Started Portal Fight

Who Started Portal Fight

Omb of the biggest lawyers on Wall Street are now burning the midnight oil trying to figure out ways and means of beating portal-to-portal lawstite, while high-paid lobby-sis are puling wires to stop portal-to-portal begin brands only know, however, is that a \$85-a-week CIO orsanizer, Ben Ristend, for concept the law which is causing them so much trouble. It was Riskind—not a lawyer—wno pored over the 1938 Fair Labor Standards Acts passed primarily to halt sweat-shop conditions in the needle trades and which provides that employees must be paid to the control of the provides that of the provides that the prov

portant to Riskind, but at first he couunn teven get no war. CIO colleagues interested.

Finally, however, he sold his idea to Lee Preasman, CIO general counsel, and persuaded film to start suit on behalf of the CIO metal miners who had to spand extit time traveling through mine shorten had to spand extit time traveling through mine shorten study of the question, the country of the country of

passed a portal-to-portal law that later was killed by the State Supreme Court.

passed a portal-to-portal law that later was killed by the State Supreme Court.

On the strength of this reserch, suit was filed against the Transesse Coal & tree of the supreme of U.S. Steel.

Transesse Coal & tree of the most important cases in labor history, but big corporation lawyers at the time failed to grasp its significance. The case finally cot up to the Supreme Court, which ruled at year, John L. Lewis, portal-to-portal property of the supreme Court which ruled at year, John L. Lewis, The Coal Coal Steel of the Steel of t