THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1948

A North Carolina Tragedy

In the tragic story of Frances Ross, which was told yesterday in Tmm Naws by Tom Fesperman, the only answer which the community can make in detense of itself is, as Tmm Naws' reporter stated, a

shameful one.

Frances Ross is an 11-year-old girl who has been an imbecile since birth and whose mental condition has grown progressively worse. Her tragedy is the tragedy of hundreds of girls, boys and adults with dark-end mings who live in a State that doesn't provide adequate facilities for their decenticare. Perhaps it will never be possible for the community to do enough for its Frances Rosses, but it is shameful that we are doing so much less than we can to ease the plight of these poor sufferers and protect the whole community from the distress and damage resulting from neglect of the mentally defective persons in our midst.

It is shocking to read that fulle efforts

taily defective persons in our midst. It is shocking to read that futile efforts have been made for five years to place Prances Ross in the State's Training School, at Kingston. She has been rejected because the school is overcrowded and there had been a long waiting list of applicants ahead of this one Charlotte girl. That report reveals a problem so large and urgent that it makes one wonder what our legislators was have been doing with all their time in the last five years that they could fall to effect a drastic improvement in this situation.

as he has grown larger, stronger and more uncontrollable. One member of that household is a brother who suffers a serious chronic heart condition which demands complete rest. He probably will become a ward of the State himself unless Frances is placed in a mental hespital soon. The girl's demoralising psychological effect on pypnounced. The heavy burdon of grief and despair which her parents have borne alone is paintilly clear to anyone who reads the details of Tom Fespieman's account.

It is not known whether medical science could bring some light into Frances' de-ranged mind but it is certain that the State could privide treatment that would make her life more bearable and lift this blight has desired and beg community. We could provide treatment that would make her life more bearable and litt this blight from her family and her community. We do know that mental therapy can restore many disordered minds partly or wholly to sanity, but we are far indeed from realising the possibilities in this field of h un an reclamation. As this case shows so giaring-ly, we have not even made a good star in-meeting the minimum requirements for care at the minimum requirements for care in the minimum requirements for care in the minimum requirements for care in the minimum requirements of care the property of the mental hospital facilities, but it is also true that progress in this work has been painfully slow and the projected expansion will not meet the whole need.

Meanwhile, State officials must investigate at once to determine that there has been no bureaucratic in difference or bungling which has unnecessarily prolonged the misery of Frances Ross and her family. The public demands an immediate showing that there has been and that there will be no routine handling of this outrageous case.

Taft Gaining Over Dewey

GOV. THOMAS E. DEWEY of New York

Thas again called attention to his undeclared candidacy for the GOP Presidential nomination without breaking his long silence, which has been maintained for the strategical purpose of maintaining the libusion that he is too occupied with New York's affairs to mix in national politics. He has managed this by authoriting his executive assistant to announce that Mr. Dewey "would accept" if nominated.

Dewey "would accept" It nominated.
This tells us nothing that we did not already know except that Mr. Dewey is beginning to grow nervous in the splendid solation of the Executive Mansion while the avowed candidates in his party, par-Beniarly Sensior Tell, run with the ball. Indeed, the timing of the roundshoot announcement of Dewey's availability seems significant chiefly as a reminder to the conservative GOP powers that there is someone besides Mr. Taft in the race for the Republicans.

the Republicans.

There now (is a question whether the New York Governor has waited too long to plunge into the turbulent water of open campalgning for the big job for which he has been grooming himself is these many years. While Mr. Dewey has been holding himself aloof from they national debate, except for a few dignified and guarded utterances, Senator Tath has been making, except for a few dignified and guarded utterances, Senator Tath has been making, and there are not the control of the cont

Gandhi's Lesson In Peacemaking .

THE ONLY thing that has happened in I a month of Sun days which makes complete sense is Mohandas Gandhi's fast for peace, for "the restoration of communal love," which ended Sunday after 121 hours upon his acceptance of solemn pledges that his program would be carried out by the Moslems and Hindus.

Just how far the Western world is removed from the sanity which temporarily has returned to India is revealed by reference to several columns in our Sunday papers, all devoted to discussion of plans to prepare for an atomic war in the 1950s which it is admitted that no one can win and in which everyone will lose.

and in which everyone will lose.

Through their veneration for the Mahatma, the Hindu and Moslem masses of the Indian sub-continent have been compelled to see, at least temporarily the whickeness and utter foily of alsughtering one another over religious and political differences. It is impossible to tell how long they will remain on this lofty plane, how long their fear of losting Gandhi will force them to control their violent passions, but it is an event of tremendous significance that the fighting has been brought to a stop by no compulsion except the power of conscience. It will be a great event even if this peace is soon interrupted. During this interval, a great event even if this peace is soon interrupted. During this interval, accounted of reloking when the another than the counted of reloking when the same than the counted of reloking when the same than the world.

The tragedy of the West is that, although it has a sublime faith, it has lost the poy-er of clear articulation. It is afraid to trust its own spiritual power. It has no living leader who is universuly recognized as a Mahatma, a "great-souled one," and who can speak in a way that implies com-plete acceptance of his message when he declares that life has no value without peace and love.

The way things are shaping up, it ap-pears likely that Tatt will have the Re-publican Farty thoroughly committed to his course before convention times and the man who heads the Republican Presiden-tial ticket will run on a Tatt record and a Tatt program, and under Tatt supervision, even if that man doesn't happen to be Robert A. Tatt himself.

even it that man doesn't happen to be Robert A. Tatt himself.

Of course, Tom Dewey could manage the shift to a Tattan platform with only a moderate amount of incongruity resulting from his own views on Universal Military Training, aid to Europe and inflation condensed the control of the tensor from the Tatt line. If, by convention time, the party managers decide that the voters can't swallow the Tatt substitutes for inflation control, European recovery, social reform and other pressing matters, they may be inclined to pass devr the cautious Mr. Dewey for some candidate who represents more of the case of the ca

The Christian world of the West is walting for a voice to arouse it from the evil war trance that has been induced by fear. It has forgotten the One who said, "Be not afraid." It remains confused and divided in its own soul. Perhaps the work of India's asint will serve to remind he Western people and their leaders that one positive demonstration of good will is more powerful than the atom bomb. If we are honest with ourselves, it will compel us to admit that too many among us do not desire peace, too many accept war as inevitable or talk for a "preventive war," and too few have more confidence in the United Nations. the Mars Ha till Plan and Other peaceful measures than in military force.

A Dollar's Worth

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Those ters and barded stahements that
Americans call wheersake carry, at their
best, a structure of humor laid on a foundation of sober fact. It is so, we think, in
the case of the wheersaker, name unknown to us, who remarked in a trade
magazine recently that: "A dollar worth
do as much for us as it once did. But we
don't do as much for a dollar as we once
did, either." In many of our own key industries the plaint of management is hat
dustries the plaint of management is as
to imperil prevailing structures of
hours and pay. The figures back up the
claim, too, in numerous instances. After
all is said and done, what we do for the
dollar can' and will do for us. —Memphis
Commercial Appeal.

The war has been over two years and we still haven't settled Germany's fate. But if Hitler had won, ours would have been settled in two minutes,—Rognoke Times.

The honeymoon of Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip is over but we'll bet he hasn't seen any burnt biscuits yet.—Greenville Piedmont.

'You Can Be Clearing The Ground, There'



Douglas' Tribute To Altgeld

Stand Up For Civil Liberties

Joseph & Stewart Alsop

Soviet Shenanigans

Samuel Grafton

License For Living

Drew Pearson's: Farm Leader Asks Truman To Testify

JAMES PATTON, reaged boss of the National Funers'
Julion, used Fresheet Truman to walk up to Congress some day just like any other American citizen and My his views before a Congressional committee.

What you count to do some the congressional consultation with the control of the congressional consultation. The congressional consultation was a congressional consultation and my confidence in an here to testify in the people's interest.

"My most effective weapon," he disagreed, "is to stand before a milks and talk to the people.

"If you want to win the next election," persisted Pations, you views. Instead of strolling on the White House lawn, asyol up Pennsylvania Avenue with a purpose. It would be the first time since Jefferson that a President appearance of the people.

"Well," admitted Truman, "that would be rather dramatic."

and Myers of Pennsylvania, Democrats, have introduced rent-control bills with teeth.

Where Our Money Went

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