

8th Anniversary Year
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GREGG CHERRY—A GOOD GOVERNOR

ANY summation of Governor R. Gregg Cherry's administration must necessarily delve closely into his character since the atmosphere of the regime was established by that gentleman's forceful personality. Perhaps the most concise expression of the Governor's personality was contained in an answer he gave to a press conference recently. Would the Governor feel sorrowful at the prospect of living in a rented house again after occupying the luxurious executive mansion for four years, asked a reporter...

balanced point of view inherent in the man himself. This is exemplified in the Governor's sensible view that good Democrats ought to fight their battles inside the party. That philosophy paid off excellent dividends. Mr. Cherry long ago expressed such sentiment—long before civil rights became an issue—and when that controversy appeared on the scene early last year, he had his large feet firmly on the ground. They stayed right there through the ensuing fury which split the South wide open, and he kept the factious and embarrasing warring banners of a feeble splinter movement. When several would-be lynchers sought to flout the law, Mr. Cherry informed them of its sanctity in a loud, unrighteously voiced, thereby demonstrating its popularity among the bigoted but enhancing it one-hundredfold among the enlightened. The Cherry administration has been characterized by a "test-on-it" policy. At the ground point of view. At the same time the accomplishments of the regime in terms of statistics show that a large number of good things were done in four years of balanced government. The Governor himself took the greatest interest in the assistance he gave the State's hospitals and mental institutions. He told the press recently that he wanted to be remembered most of all for that. Even the incoming Governor, Mr. Bess, recently observed that the Cherry administration did a remarkably able job on the State's roads during a period when demands for services exceeded facilities for filling them. The school forces have been building at the State University here recently, but they would be the first to admit that the school appropriations have risen more during the last four years than at any time in many decades. The common sense philosophy of the Cherry administration will be appreciated more as the years pass. He has continued North Carolina's tradition of "Good Governors" and the welfare of the State has been bettered because he passed this way.

WELCOME TO NEW RESIDENTS

ANY greeting to the 15,000-odd prime-time area residents who automatically become citizens of Charlotte with the turn of the year Friday night runs the risk of falling slightly flat. Most of the new residents are gaining a good deal more from the deal than the City of Charlotte is gaining, and if they are somewhat less than exuberant about their new status, it would be understandable. Nevertheless, we would like their risk and expense to be a heavy welcome and a hope that their new urban status will be more enjoyable than it appears at first. City living has its material advantages, all right, though some of them won't be felt until the city grows even further. There are such things as lower fire insurance on buildings, lower water rates, better garbage disposal and sewer systems, somewhat better educational and transportation facilities and fire protection. There are not, in fact, any "free" things, the little matter of a higher tax rate.

they'll be annoyed by little things like City licenses for their autos and dogs, building permits, and smoke control rules. They won't realize at first, but they'll find out that the State of North Carolina and the State of North Carolina will not be nearly so solicitous of their welfare, nor that they're no longer rural folks, and that they will join the urbanites in fending for their own. Be that as it may, they will be a distinct new asset for the City of Charlotte which has grown to be the largest and most prosperous city of the Carolinas by just such extension of the city limits as the present one. Here's the record of Charlotte's growth.

Table with 4 columns: Year, Area in Square Miles, Population, and Estimated 1950 Population. Data points for 1903, 1907, 1910, 1920, 1930, and 1940.

LICENSING BOARDS

IF there is any one thing clear in the tangled web of licensing board systems in this state, it is that there should be more of them. Charlotte's Frank Sims opened fire in 1947 on the lax "sprawling mechanism through which various trades and professions regulate themselves. He called for the establishment of a commission to examine the 21 different boards, which range from doctors to photographers. It was obvious to Representative Sims, as it must have been to anyone acquainted with the some of these boards were using their status as official State agencies to protect themselves from competition. The commission investigated Under Rowan County's George R. Uzzell in 1947 on the lax "sprawling mechanism through which various trades and professions regulate themselves. He called for the establishment of a commission to examine the 21 different boards, which range from doctors to photographers. It was obvious to Representative Sims, as it must have been to anyone acquainted with the some of these boards were using their status as official State agencies to protect themselves from competition.

that, in the interest of good and just government, the boards would have to be supervised by one central authority: a "general licensing board." The General Licensing Board would consist of one full-time chairman, supervisor of auditing, fees and collection, State Health Officer and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The individual boards would continue as they are, but the General Board would serve as an "appellate court" for them, would supervise their expenditures and serve as an agency through which the public could keep its finger on what private interests were up to. This will help, but more is needed. First, there is serious doubt about the constitutionality of some of the boards, which are substantially retrograde in history. Bolstered by the double legality and necessity should be abolished completely. After the culling, standard methods of appointment, supervision, auditing, fees and collection of money, criminal penalties, record-keeping, and enforcement should be drawn up by the Legislature and made applicable to all the boards. Then, and only then, will the new "super board" be able to relate to the public that the licensing boards are being operated for the benefit of the public and not for their own trades or professions.

PERSIMMONS AND CATFISH

MAYBE that fellow who was found living in the woods near Fayetteville in a 120-year-old man-of-wooden-cardboard hat was by no means the only one there. There were twenty men, dining on persimmon pudding and catfish stew, with an occasional possum or rabbit. The newsmen who saw and photographed him called him as being in "apparent good health and spirits."

managed in the past two decades to get away from inflation, deflation, nuclear fission, bacteriological warfare, atomic bombing, rationing, price control, the Politburo the Cominform, Hitler, Mussolini, Tojo and Franco, there are probably about 40,000 people who would like to change their minds and eat unseasoned persimmon pudding, catfish stew, quilt-covered cardboard, and all the rest of it. The line forms on the right.



A News Editorial Feature

The Guild System—1948 Model

WHEN North Carolina's legislators gather in Raleigh next week to spend several months in the winter recess, they will be faced with a persistent group of real estate men, watchmakers, roadbuilders, funeral directors and dancing teachers waiting for them. And what you might ask the members of this variegated assembly have in common? That they want to get in on North Carolina's lucrative board system.

which are required to make reports sometimes for or before them. The logic in requiring those boards to keep the Governor as the treasurer posted while others are permitted to take care of public money without audit, is not clear. Nor is the "policing" system of the boards completely understandable. While an unlicensed veterinarian for instance practicing his trade in North Carolina can be sent to prison for 30 days, a dentist can pull teeth and fill cavities without a license and so more than a 400 fee.

Other Inconsistencies

OR, as Mr. Davis says, an "unlicensed the-lay" can be punished with great severity than an unlicensed architect who designs a defective building, or than an unlicensed physician who might be called in to aid a person injured when the building collapsed. Furthermore, that building would have to have been built at a cost of more than \$15,000 or the architect would not be liable at all. If you built a home for \$14,999 and it fell about your head on the day you moved in the State Board would not punish the unlicensed architect who designed it for you, but would punish the contractor who built it. The boards will provide many cases that would give a citizen good cause to raise an eyebrow.

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Legal Standing

OF course there can be no objection to members of business groups, trade groups, professional groups forming an association. However, when these boards are governmental agencies, established under the laws of the Legislature, empowered with the right to punish by fine, by suspension of license, or by other means from members of various trades and professions. The boards operate at the expense of the State. The board of finance, one such board—the State Board of Finance—did make a report, a surplus of \$3,988,723. This was public money and the Board, with offices in Charlotte, did make a report to the Governor and present an audit to the State Treasurer. But only twelve of the 21 boards are required to make such a report and audit. Mr. Davis suggests that the twelve

People's Platform

ON behalf of the Mecklenburg Tuberculosis Association, we express to you our most sincere appreciation for helping out our drive across. We have not only a very successful drive, but we have a very active organization. It meant much to inform the public of this dread disease. Your organization did just that thing, and we are grateful. We hope it will continue to be a splendid work. I doubt very seriously whether we would have gone over the top in our campaign of 1948. Whatever additional funds we receive, you and your organization are the ones who will use them to increase our ability to increase services which we are now rendering. After all, our budget of \$14,000 is only a small part of the total. We can increase this by a substantial sum and that we will be able to do more to discover this dread disease and to beat it. Furthermore, we will not have 43 people in Mecklenburg County die. Again, many thanks for your help. I am, sincerely yours, A. L. RECHTOLD, Chairman, Mecklenburg County Tuberculosis Association.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

INSIDE fact about the Indonesian war is that the United States received ample advance notice it was coming. Merle Cochran, American member of the United Nations Security Council, was sent to the Netherlands by the State Dept. by cable one month before the attack. He reported that the Dutch were pulling up supplies—most of them American—and that the Indonesian Republic, even while the U. N. mediators were trying to settle the dispute, was preparing to go to war. Cochran queried the Dutch regarding their activity but got waded with the bland reply that the Dutch Army was operating a "routine military exercise." But ostensibly because of his inquiries, Dutch representatives were summoned to the State Dept. and the U. S. Joint Chiefs of Staff that Communists had permeated the Indonesian Republic and were ready to revolt in February. If this revolt was successful the Communists would use Java and Sumatra as a base to take over British Malaya and the Philippines. Therefore, Cochran was, they planned to take "police measures" in advance. He hopes that the registered Communist vote in Holland itself at the last election was ten per cent, and U. S. observers say that the Communist percentage in Indonesia is less. However, U. S. reaction was mixed. The State Dept. still hitherto has dodged the issue and get alarmed. Certain U. S. military men, on the other hand, in effect warned "Police action," they indicated to the Dutch was an internal problem concerning the United States.

U. S. Had Advance Notice Of Dutch War

belatedly wide awake drafted a strong note to the Netherlands. It was just as strong as the Australian statement at the United Nations. Furthermore, it was sent to the White House, however the President noted it down. Again the military was suspected. It was even in its revised form, the American protest put the Dutch almost in the same category as the Hitler and Mussolini in their warring of the League of Nations. It is a benefit which has private anguish from the Dutch. The Dutch War I. ASST went Dutch representatives called on U. S. officials in Washington. They were up in arms over curtailing their plan aid in Indonesia—even though this slap on the wrist sounds much louder than it hurts. The Dutch had a half billion to fight Communism in Europe and a \$500,000,000 unspent ECA aid to Indonesia. The remaining \$467,000,000 has already been committed and will not be cut off until the end of the year. Furthermore, over \$500,000,000 ECA allotment to Holland still stands—even though \$450,000,000 of this amount is passed on to Indonesia. Nevertheless, the Dutch were irate. Without attempting to quote them direct, the gist of what they said was this: "We don't understand your policy. You spend \$467 million to fight Communism in Europe, yet in the Far East you hadn't asked us to get in. We have been neutral in the last war, and we could be neutral in the next. We don't want to have our country overrun by the Russians as it was by the Germans." We realize that this Western European Pact is largely for the defense of the United States and that we are presently doing it for the United States is going to the Marshall Plan aid because of Indonesia, we might begin warming up to the Russians. We don't want to, but we may have to.

Truman's Military Pals

CONFLICT between the U. S. military and the State Dept. is of course, nothing new. And the above illustrates what has happened to U. S. foreign policy time and again ever since President Truman took office. In Germany, in China in Argentina and in Spain, the President has let the military sometimes dominate foreign policy. Immediately after the Dutch attacked, the State Dept.

WASHINGTON THE United States seems likely to give its anti-Communist allies through the State Dept. \$100,000,000 and \$200,000,000 worth of arms next year. This is the largest amount of military equipment the Europeans need in the way of military equipment is already available at Army, Navy and Air Force stockpiles. This can be shipped abroad at a fraction of the cost of new production.

President Truman therefore is expected to ask Congress to appropriate only about \$100 million for the European rearmament program during the new fiscal year beginning next July. This amount would cover packing, shipping and other similar costs. The rest of the money might have to be sought elsewhere. But top officials say they feel confident Congress will approve the program. Major moves in the cold war.

This would be one of the great foreign policy issues of the new session. Three other items dealing with American military outlays abroad are also being considered. The question of what this country wants in the world and how it proposes to get it. The Berlin airlift. The cost of sustaining the American presence in Berlin is going to run the year between \$70,000,000 and \$80,000,000. The cost of the Marshall Plan. By asking Congress to vote this much more money before June 30, the State Dept. is trying to get the lawmakers to do this before their formal apportionment bill is passed. The American in the face of terrific Russian pressure. The Greek-Turkish aid. President Truman is due to decide soon the size of the aid to Greece and Turkey. His advisers reportedly are prepared to recommend an increase of \$200 million to \$300 million this year's \$225,000,000 program. The Greek-Turkish program is the key to American strategy in the Middle East. Politically it is the "rub" of the background and the helping free nations to defend themselves against Russian-Communist aggression. The extra strength American strategists want to keep Greece and Turkey as a bulwark against the Communist invasion of the Middle East, the southern flank of Europe.

The China program—if any. The U. S. is expected to spend on military and civilian aid to China this year. Despite the plea of the State Dept. that it is uncertain whether there will be any real aid program next year. In fact, because of Generalissimo Chiang's long string of defeats at the hands of the Communists, the State Dept. has suspended a planned outlay of \$70,000,000 for reconstruction. That reduced to \$10 million. The State Dept. has also suspended a planned outlay of \$70,000,000 for reconstruction. That reduced to \$10 million. The State Dept. has also suspended a planned outlay of \$70,000,000 for reconstruction. That reduced to \$10 million.

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Marquis Childs

HOOPER Reports. SOMETHING has gone wrong with the Hoover Commission. The man named Dewey was supposed to be starting just about now to make over the government in Washington, and instead the name of Herbert Hoover is in the front-page headlines.

As with everything he has done, Hoover has done it with a flourish. He has done it with a flourish. He has done it with a flourish. He has done it with a flourish.

The final report will be based on the studies made by the task force and the Hoover Commission. The studies are voluminous in scope and often conflicting in their proposed changes.

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United Nations At Stake

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