

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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## POLITICAL COMPROMISE

THE City Council's approval of 400 public low-cost housing units for Negroes apparently was an off-and-on political maneuver which will result in a compromise except to get both propositions and opponents of the Council's collective neck.

At no time during the public discussion yesterday was there placed on exhibit the yardstick used by the Councilmen to measure the exact need. The Housing Authority had asked for 1,800 units for Negroes, and 300 for whites, or a total of 1,800.

We have no way of knowing what evidence was offered in the earlier session. But it is certain truth rather than the Housing Authority, which based its 1,800-unit request on an old 1940 survey, nor the opponents, who were against any units whatever, proved their cases in the public session.

In all probability no one knows just exactly how many of the units are needed in the City of Charlotte. The essence of such a statement, prof. Sen. Councilman agreed on the smaller number. Only Mr. Albes held out for the 1,800 units.

If the need is greater than 400 units, a mistake has been made. If we do not need that many, we should not ask for them for there are other communities in this nation which do need such money as it available.

It is interesting, by way of comparison,

to note that Richmond received preliminary approval yesterday for 1,800 units, Greensboro 800 units, and Asheville 800 units. All three of these reductions from their original requests. It is entirely possible that Charlotte's will be similarly reduced.

It was a difficult problem for a Council which has no staff in the field. Mr. Albes, been on a honeymoon. Some of the Councilmen doubtless oppose the principle of public housing and other mushrooming Federal enterprises. They also had to take in consideration the possible competition with local builders and developers.

On the other hand, they had to balance their personal opinions against an opportunity for hundreds of families to leave miserable slum conditions and leave decent living opportunities extended to them by their Federal Congress with the endorsement and support of both major parties.

Finally, they had to consider the future of a city which is growing by leaps and bounds, but which is still retarded in its development by the crime, disease and inhumanity of its blighted areas.

Compromise is the way of democracy, and may have been the only way out in this case, but it is more acceptable if based on sound reasoning rather than on purely political considerations.

bad news for consumers. But the action of the Trades Union Congress Council, representing 2,000,000 workers, is a clear indication that the people are not yet ready to accept the new Government policy as presented. The Council "declined to endorse" the policy, merely decided that it "could not pass on the necessity of devaluation" and asked for assurances from Mr. Cripps that the Government would try to limit price rises.

The first step in the process of devaluation is to be realized, British wage rates will go up. Else the costs of production will begin to rise, and Britain's ability to sell its products in the dollar area will be impaired.

It is a time for real statesmanship from the Labor Government, the e opposition Conservatives, and the leaders of Britain's labor movement. The nation's whole future is at stake, and the considerations are vastly more important than the temporary political popularity to be gained from playing on this unrest.

**The Flu Epidemic Of 1918**

The second chapter was the most heroic. That was the terrible "epidemic of 1918.

It started suddenly and lasted for six weeks. People died like flies.

The only physician who went from dawn to

No Time For Rest

WHEN it was finished, was there a vacation? Dr. Everett B. Lattimore has had but one vacation in his entire life—that was a restless, five-day visit to his son's home in New York.

He attended the public schools and Capt. Bell's Military Academy before entering Wake Forest University with a B.A. degree in 1932.

In 1936 he was licensed to practice medicine while internation was not necessary in those days he wanted to broaden his knowledge and got it at the University of California.

For ten months he practiced in Red Spring in North Carolina. He then returned to his native state where he became a member of the medical faculty of the University of Mississippi.

In 1941 he married Sue Brewster and became the father of two children.

For many years the turn of the century was a little town of 1,000 and welcomed a brilliant young physician who took his place with four other practitioners here at the time.

A man who needed surgery usually died. There was much to challenge a youthful practitioner whose training was limited.

It was from the turn of the century until the automobile became common with the first World War that the town did not grow. Seven years later he had no more of the time. Horseback was the only way to travel. That is how he fostered a love for horses that still is strong.

**First Hospital Established**

TWO chapters of his life stand out most vividly. The first was while he began about 1904 when he established the Netherford Hospital.

"There were doctors," he says, "without appendicitis."

In glowing terms he told of their arrival in this territory when they were greeted with doubt and suspicion. He had to prove that he could do what he had been accomplished in the light of the circumstances.

He doors with the patient lying on boards placed across a horse's back so that they usually and promptly arrived.

Until the Netherford hospital, patients afflicted with appendicitis had to die.

The first one had to be carried to a doctor living in Marion. His sticks were known as "Ed Beam's sticks." Dr. Vic McElroy, attending a clinic in Marion, heard of Beam's condition and wired him to come to New York.

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