

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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THE NEW PARKING AUTHORITY

FRIDAY morning's session was a busy one for the new parking authority. Mayor Victor Shaw, who has been named as the first chairman, called the meeting to order at 10 o'clock. Present were Mayor Shaw, George W. Dwyer, G. Duffie Bruns, Robert L. Chapman, and Robert Sidney Abernethy. Mayor Shaw has been named as the first chairman of the authority. He is a lawyer who can steer the authority away from legal pitfalls; two uptown merchants who understand why adequate parking is essential to the preservation of the main business district; a distributor who has a grasp of Charlotte's position as a trading center; and an investment broker who knows that a city, like an individual, must invest in the future. This is no small reason why the City Council, at the meeting Wednesday, should promptly confirm the appointments—they are good men. The second reason is that

much groundwork needs to be done before the General Assembly meets in January, and the Authority needs to get busy at once.

The very first task is to determine what legal powers have already been vested in city governments and their agencies to provide off-street parking in congested areas and to force builders to provide parking for new projects in non-congested areas. That entails a thorough review of the North Carolina statutes. Then the members of the Authority will map out a tentative program for the next two years. If the legal powers are adequate for the program, well and good. If they are not, then new laws will have to be prepared in co-operation with the Mecklenburg legislative delegation and pushed through the General Assembly.

Time is an important element in the job ahead. Mayor Shaw has done his part. It is now up to city governments and their agencies to get busy.

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STATE RESPONSIBILITIES

THE people of South Carolina have an assurance of Governor Strom Thurmond that constables of the State Law Enforcement Division are investigating the Klan activities in Berry County. Said Thurmond at his press conference last week:

"We cannot and are not trying to condone violence of any kind. The Constabulary is going to take every step possible to see that the law is enforced and to protect every citizen of the State."

In sending his state constables into action, Governor Thurmond is materially aiding the identity of the Ku Klux Klan in Berry County. But a still different kind of leadership is needed from him—and from his successor, James F. Byrnes. If South Carolina is ever to rid itself of the Klan, it must be done by the state.

What is needed is a vigorous campaign to wipe out the Klan mentality in the Palmetto State, to eradicate the kind of

thinking that enables the Klan to hoodwink simple men and inspire them to secrecy and violence.

Tolerance, understanding, respect for the law and for the rights of individual citizens under the law—those are some of the fundamental truths that Governor Thurmond should be pounding home to the oratorical fervor he summons when he talks about States Rights. Once those broad precepts have been instilled in the minds and hearts of all the people of South Carolina—and indeed everywhere the Klan exists—violence will not erupt. If it does erupt, it will be met with outraged public opinion and swift judicial punishment.

The lesson in Berry County is plain. A state which holds to its rights must also hold to its responsibilities. When it fails to do so, its helpless citizens must look to higher authority—in this case the Federal Government.

THE EFFECT OF CRIME COMICS

THE way the headlines read you would have thought that crime "comic books" had been boosted to a place along with *Pilgrim's Progress* and *The Little Red Hen*. "Comics Cleared as Cause of Crime," they said.

The Kefauver Committee Gives Comics Clean Bill of Health," they said. There was some substance behind the headlines. It is true that Kefauver Crime Investigating Committee said that crime comic books are the cause of juvenile delinquency. But a *Yankee* has called crime books the cause of juvenile delinquency; they've just said that the crime books helped.

There are several things about the matter that call for further comment. In the first place, no one—so far as we know—has called crime books the cause of juvenile delinquency; they've just said that the crime books helped.

In the second place, if the Senate Committee doesn't think the blood and lust books help the cause of juvenile delinquency, they should take another look. It is our opinion that a constant literary diet of mayhem and murder makes the apprentice brute. They lease pit bulldogs with hanks of raw meat, don't they?

Not every reader of crime comic books is going to dash out into the street and shoot up the police. But a *Yankee* bred on the gandy pages of the hundreds of crime comics available on the nation's newsstands would be more apt to engage in petty violence than the non-reader of crime comics.

Violence is the prime device of the men who grind out the comics. Not only is it the prime device, it is the total reason for the exploitation of human urge to participate in violence—and for nothing more.

From The Charleston News & Courier

BYRNES' OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

GOVERNOR-ELECT BYRNES, now visiting the western states with the budget commission, is getting a first-hand picture of where public money goes in South Carolina.

As usual, the institutions are almost unanimously asking for larger appropriations of them, unless a *Yankee* could do a better job if they had more funds.

It will be the responsibility of Mr. Byrnes and his colleagues on the commission to decide which appropriations should be reduced and which should be increased. In reaching this decision, they must be guided by what the state can afford to spend, and how the taxes are to be levied.

Mr. Byrnes is on record as opposing socialism and high Federal spending, although he has shown legislative experience. He is thoroughly familiar with governmental budgeting, both as a member of Congress and as a high-ranking administrative official. Because of his financial experience and the overwhelming majority with which he was named governor, he possibly will exert more influence on the Legislature than any

governor in recent South Carolina history.

What all this adds up to is that the people of South Carolina and the Legislature are looking to the governor-elect to lead the way. Decisions on whether the present, unfair state excise taxes are to be modified, whether a sales tax is to be enacted, whether dual-office holding is to be eliminated, whether the Santee-Cooper and its REA tie-up is to be investigated as authorized by the last Legislature, rest in the last analysis with Mr. Byrnes.

Understandably, Mr. Byrnes has kept his own counsel while he was learning about state budget and other matters. When he breaks his silence, South Carolinians will have a clue as to what lies in store for them during the next four years.

Mr. Byrnes has announced that he sought the governorship because of a sincere desire to serve his state. The motive is admirable. The opportunity is golden. Beldam has South Carolina had more need for an able, honest leader, with the courage to lead.

Taking China's Calls



Joseph & Stewart Also

A Sense Of Unreality

WASHINGTON
A T LEAST one of those present at Truman's press conference last week carried away with him a sense of unreality. It was not that there was anything unusual about the press conference. It was the first since the election, and it was natural that most of the questions concerned election results.

With his usual cheerfulness, the President indicated that the results were not really unfavorable—in fact, he looked ahead to the next Democratic loss less than any party boss had in any of his previous years in office, except for 1934. With his usual stoniness, the President also indicated that he was not at all concerned about the program which would obviously a footnote to history—and that he expected the new Congress to pass it.

There was nothing unusual, either, in the President's appearance. The four neat points of his toupee were the fact looked a shade more than usual, and the rest of him perhaps a shade plumper. He spoke with his hands clasped behind his back, and he looked a little nervous habit, a tendency to shut and open his hands repeatedly, like some of the politicians who are not used to any strain, he certainly did not show it.

Only twice did he take on a certain edge, a somber sharpness. This happened when a reporter asked him about the stories of his pocket handkerchief were red, instead of the usual white. The fact looked a shade more than usual, and the rest of him perhaps a shade plumper. He spoke with his hands clasped behind his back, and he looked a little nervous habit, a tendency to shut and open his hands repeatedly, like some of the politicians who are not used to any strain, he certainly did not show it.

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Quote, Unquote

Bale of hay falling from a truck kills a Henry County, Va., pedestrian and the driver is charged with manslaughter. Reason we can't say we told you that we always thought it would be a bale of cotton that would do the dirty work—Greensboro Daily News.

Edible candles are now supplied to our military forces in Alaska, and a soldier short of rations can melt the candle at both ends by eating one end of it—Arkansas Gazette.

Americans are always complaining that the world thinks we owe it a living; but it cannot be said that our armed forces have ever given anyone anything but a living. The only nation couldn't afford it—Richmond (Va.) News Leader.

Some people have queer ideas about what they would be rich. Among other things, one thinks that under any circumstances he could have ice cream as ever melt, would send all his clothes to the laundry, and follow the highest lead around the world—Monroe (Ga.) Advertiser.

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be less than 300 words, typewritten, postpaid, and on only one side of the paper. *Libel and obscenity will be deleted—otherwise anything goes. Both letters must be signed.*—Editors, *Tex News*

WASHINGTON
WITH Russia now building up a stockpile of approximately 25 atomic bombs and with the cold war turned into a hot war in one part of the world, the Federal Government is preparing against the possibility of a surprise attack.

As of today, President Truman still has not appointed a chief of the Federal civil defense planning. It is temporarily in the hands of Stuart Symington's brother-in-law, H. B. Hines, Jr., of Washington. Hines is a member of the American Public Affairs Association and has prepared a confidential survey of civil defense plans showing considerable criticism of Washington for dragging its feet in carrying out the program. Hines is a man of his own defense plans, with two cities—Norfolk, Va., and San Mateo, Calif., claiming to be 75 per cent ready for attack. Manchester, N. H., claims to be 50 per cent ready and Uniontown, Pa., 65 per cent.

Meanwhile, many large cities are voluntarily setting up machinery for their own defense. For example, Bloomington, Ind., is preparing to care for evacuees from nearby Indianapolis and Louisville. Kingston and Oswego, N. Y., are preparing to care for evacuees from New York City. Evacuation plans have also been worked out by San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, San Bernardino, and San Diego, Calif., Mount Vernon and New Rochelle, N. Y., Dearborn and Wyandotte, Mich., Salisbury, N. C., and many other cities. One of the best-prepared cities is Schenectady, N. Y.

Merry-Go-Round

Drew Pearson's

WASHINGTON
which has even figured the bridge loads and clearance on emergency escape routes from the city. Schenectady is also preparing to recruit volunteer air raid wardens, street cleaners, and other services. At least three cities—Seattle, Chicago, and Washington, D. C.—have staged mock bombings to test their civil defense plans. The city of New York is also testing its plans by using television to explain civil defense to the public. Another city which has staged a mock bombing is St. Paul, Minn., which has staged a mock bombing to test its plans. The chief complaint from the cities is lack of coordination of local civil defense programs and the high cost of the program. Responsibility for lack of information was generally laid upon the Federal Government rather than the state.

Many cities feel keenly the lack of training manuals. Delighted Mrs. India Edwards of the Democratic National Committee, who probably has put more women in office than anyone else the history, has this in the back of her mind: "We need a training manual." Actually, Mrs. Rosenberg was recommended to Secretary Marshall by the War Relocation Authority. The new chief of Central Intelligence, who has come to play an increasingly important part in the defense picture, has not yet been named. It is thought that the feminine support, but the way hardboiled businessmen root

Lady On Supreme Court??

IT SEEMS a little early to talk about it, but female admirers of Mrs. Anna Rosenberg, first lady ever to be named as a potential Supreme Court justice, are in mind for her. They want her to be the first woman ever appointed to the Supreme Court.

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New Defense Plan Calls For Bigger National Guard, UMT

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON
A NEW and far-reaching program for the National Guard and U. S. Army Reserve has been announced by the War Relocation Authority. The program is the product of long and careful study by the War Relocation Authority and the final report was submitted to the Joint Chiefs of Staff by the War Relocation Authority.

Joint Chief Chairman General Omar N. Bradley will give the first news of the new program. The program will be put into effect by the end of the year. The program is the product of long and careful study by the War Relocation Authority and the final report was submitted to the Joint Chiefs of Staff by the War Relocation Authority.

It is a quiet recognition that the War Relocation Authority of American forces in the next 18 months, the pinch on manpower resources will be severe. But the Joint Chief planners believe this to be inevitable in view of the critical need for the kind of military readiness that simply did not exist when the War Relocation Authority was first set up on South Korea in 1948. There will be no chances taken in this.

This means, then, that by next July 1 the three services will have increased their total strength to this point the buildup continues to the top level to be reached in 1952. The War Relocation Authority will set this level at around 3,000,000 men. The War Relocation Authority will set this level at around 3,000,000 men. The War Relocation Authority will set this level at around 3,000,000 men.

The best of it is a complete revision of the present system of reserve and National Guard. Present practice is to maintain all National Guard divisions at a strength of approximately 10,000 men. The four Guard divisions called up in the summer of 1950 were made up of active service men and National Guard units where they will be used in the summer of 1950. The new approach has been designed to ease the pinch.

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Ex-Alabama Back's Blindness Has Led Him To Richer Life

By ROBERT C. RUARK

BIRMINGHAM
CHARLIE BOWELL, Alabama's first blind man to be elected to the Alabama House of Representatives, has led a richer life than most of his fellow blind men. He has a wife, a son, and a daughter. He is a member of the Alabama House of Representatives. He has a wife, a son, and a daughter.

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