

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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NO REASON TO JUGGLE THIS HOT POTATO

THE CITY COUNCIL seems to be overly cautious in its approach to a solution of the Firemen's Retirement Fund problem. The facts have been assembled and discussed. The fund is not actuarially sound. It is facing eventual bankruptcy because, with the present schedule of benefits and contributions, outgo will exceed income. If the members of the department are to be protected in their old age, if they are to derive any benefit from the contributions they make through the years, then the fund must be made actuarially sound. It is as simple as that.

A third is to abolish the special fund, and put the firemen under the regular retirement system for all city employees. All of these would work, and there are variations of each that could be developed. But for some strange reason our City Councils and legislative delegations have always been highly sensitive to the political influence of the firemen, and variations of each that could be developed. But for some strange reason our City Councils and legislative delegations have always been highly sensitive to the political influence of the firemen, and variations of each that could be developed. But for some strange reason our City Councils and legislative delegations have always been highly sensitive to the political influence of the firemen, and variations of each that could be developed.

A BIG JOB WELL DONE

IT IS TRUE, as the old saying goes, that there is warm satisfaction in a job well done, the whole community ought to be glowing over the result of the first United Appeal for financial support of 20 health and welfare agencies.

It was not an easy task to create the organization. It took more than work; it took persuasion and education. But the job was done in a few months, and the fruits of its excellence may be found in the resounding success of the appeal.

MORE ATTRACTIVE FOREIGN INVESTMENT

WHEN Harold Stassen moves into the top spot in the Mutual Security Administration in January, he will find on his desk several plans, now being drawn up by the outgoing Administration. In recent weeks NSA has been getting up various proposals which private investment abroad might be stimulated, and public (taxpayer) investment thus diminished.

"The alternative to this seems to be continued aid. The Government might as well try to stimulate investment this way, and take a chance on the investment paying off all right, as to keep pouring in billions of aid year after year."

BELOW PRO STANDARDS

TWO items in the recent sport news, both emanating from the University of Tennessee on the same day, should be of interest to those who seek to "clean up" intercollegiate athletics here to go.

The Department of Commerce has a national committee on wood utilization which in turn has a subcommittee on Uses for Second-hand Boxes and Odd Pieces of Lumber. The organization's plan—Sawtooth (G.A.) Morning News.

Care To Join In A Nonpartisan Statement?



Success On State, Local Levels

BY MORROE BERGER
In The New York Herald Tribune
ALTHOUGH it did not raise as much election campaign dust as was expected, the issue of Federal compulsory fair employment practice (F. E. P.) law did play for a share of the debate. Because both Presidential candidates took a relatively moderate position, the disagreement became neither sharp nor acrimonious but, rather, tended to revolve around the question of whether the compulsory state laws are workable and successful. An examination of the work of the agencies administering F. E. P. laws reveals very clearly that they have been successful in reducing employment discrimination.

It is not entirely clear, however, just what significance this fact has regarding the need for a Federal compulsory law. Suppose, for example, every one agreed that the compulsory or enforceable F. E. P. laws in seven states (Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island and Washington) are highly successful and their operation is workable for business men and the public alike. Then those who oppose a Federal F. E. P. law can argue that there is no need or use for the state law and that they do the job. But those who favor Federal legislation can argue that the success of the state laws shows that a compulsory law is an appropriate and workable means by which to reduce employment discrimination, and that the problem is so urgent that Federal, not only state, action is required.

Suppose, however, that investigation reveals the exact nature of the problem. Then those who oppose a Federal law can argue that if a compulsory F. E. P. law can't work in the seven states, it certainly won't work. But those who favor a Federal law can argue that the failure of the state laws shows that a compulsory law is an appropriate and workable means by which to reduce employment discrimination, and that the problem is so urgent that Federal, not only state, action is required.

Most of the municipal F. E. P. ordinances are administered by the city health department and grant the administrative agency enforcement powers. In this evaluation, we shall consider only the results in Minneapolis and Philadelphia, two cities with enforceable laws in operation long enough to permit some judgment.

Examination of the records of the agencies that administer F. E. P. laws shows that they have succeeded in reducing employment discrimination. It is difficult, however, to get at a precise measure of the extent to which they have been successful. The simplest and most obvious fact is that in these seven states and two cities, in nearly 2,000 individual cases up to this year some form of discrimination was found and eliminated.

Tour Of Palomar Observatory Restores One's Perspective

BY MARQUIS CHILDS



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scope is kept fixed on the area in space to be photographed. On every night that is not cloudy this intensive mapping of the skies goes forward. The mirror catches light that has been traveling for a billion years and, as recorded on a photographic plate, it shows far more than can be seen with the eye applied to the telescope.

It is pitch dark in the dome and cold as it is outside. The astronomer is extraordinarily sensitive to the slightest change in temperature or light. On the master control illuminated dial, one recording star time and the other Pacific time. Here are the push buttons that control the movements of the telescope. High up at other control points are astronomers guiding the operations of the two great cameras.

After four or five days they take their plates down to Pasadena and another shift of astronomers comes up to Palomar. At Pasadena in the Palomar Observatory, Cal Tech the work of analysis begins with spectroscopy showing with pinpoint accuracy what the remotest planets are made of.

For four years the Palomar telescope has been in use. It extended the frontier from 300,000,000 light years, which was the range of the stars, to 100,000,000,000 light years. Now it will argue about a few hundred million miles more or less than that figure.

To get to Palomar Mountain from Los Angeles you drive south almost to the end of the world, through the night brightness of the vast New England from Oceanic you go through forest and mountains to a cada county until the hills become steeper and then you start to wind up the mountain.

Yet, if you look at it another way, there is in the very act of "shooting back these farthest frontiers an amazing kind of courage. It is the boldness, the presumption, of daring to look out across a distance that would be unimaginable if it did not exist. And you hear these men talk about the future—the 500 to 600 years of work still ahead mapping with the 200-inch telescope the vast unknown just how transitory are the conflicts of the moment down below.

LOOKING out at the broad sweep of Hampton Roads, studied with ships and bearing the roar of the shipyards, watching the planes take off from the airport—it suddenly takes away some years from the mind. It looks like my home town, but in an older war.

There is probably more military activity in the world today than the Chesapeake meets the Atlantic, than anyplace else in the land. Just north of Norfolk-Newport News-Little Creek control the key to the soldier and sailor units to have won the Korean war if we let go the muscle.

In a few square miles we have the tremendous shipbuilding potential that made us great in the last war, capable of turning out big liners and smaller, more utilitarian vessels with the same ease as the number of troops passing through, or being trained, or heavy industry for war trained in the same area. The same area as the troops themselves, against the beer and hot dog buying, or the chicken in airplanes and atom furnaces, or the number of troops furnished for the small builder and purveyor.

It is fine we have the preparing, and the making of the tools we need. But it still makes me a touch morose, to have seen this place before, to have seen this place before, to have seen this place before, to have seen this place before.

Norfolk Reminds You Of War—And Its False Prosperity

BY ROBERT C. RUARK

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. (AP)—The town of Norfolk, Va., looking out at the broad sweep of Hampton Roads, studied with ships and bearing the roar of the shipyards, watching the planes take off from the airport—it suddenly takes away some years from the mind. It looks like my home town, but in an older war.

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

SOME of the commentators covering Ike may not realize it, but they have been watching the wrong kingmaker around the President-elect. For a man who has been called the "Dewey No Governor" Dewey nor Senator Taft, but the former American commander of Berlin—Gen. Lucius Clay.

General Clay Seen As Ike's Kingmaker

Clay spoke little officially, mingled much with business leaders. Taking the rostrum for one off-the-record, eight-minute talk, Clay cautiously predicted: "I believe it is the General's understanding that defense spending will continue at the present high rate for at least another year."

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claimants told this column: "Dulles is now much closer to the Taft than Dewey."

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