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ANOTHER 'MESS' TO BE CLEANED UP

THE REPORT that the Charlotte Firemen's Retirement Plan is heading straight for bankruptcy comes as no surprise.

The City Council, as trustee of the fund, and the Mecklenburg legislators got their first warning that the fund was financially unsound back in 1948.

The Charlotte Firemen's Retirement Plan is the only public retirement system in Mecklenburg County that is not in accordance with financially sound actuarial principles.

Last Fall, the responsible local officials got a second warning from George G. Scott & Co., certified public accountants.

With mounting retirements and very little income, the fund is in a precarious financial position.

After a delay of more than two years, the actuarial report was finally ordered to the displeasure, it might be noted, of some members of the fire department.

IT'S WORTH A TRY, ANYWAY

ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS in the past, City Manager Henry Yancey has suggested to the people who live near the old Tremont rock quarry that they try to fill the yawning cavity by supervised garbage dumping.

Once again, the suggestion has been advanced to those residents, this time via the Mecklenburg Grand Jury.

LET SCIENCE WRITE THE CONTRACT

PERHAPS you've noticed a news story every once in a while telling about the increase (long ago there used to be) in the cost of living.

"This increase in the cost-of-living means a three-cent-an-hour wage increase for Detroit auto workers."

Behind that sentence lies a fascinating story of enlightened industrial relations, of increasing labor-management harmony between the United Auto Workers, headed by Walter Reuther, and Charles E. Wilson, head of General Motors.

Consider the prices of many raw materials in the Korean war period. Certain of these materials rose by 25 per cent and even by 200 per cent in a few months.

One of the most interesting, and convincing, aspects of the cost-of-living-productivity-increase system is illustrated by comparing the increase which has averaged two and one-half per cent annually, with at least maintain its average.

Every three months the wages are adjusted to reflect the change in the cost-of-living. If the consumer's price index goes up 1.14 points, wages go up one cent, and vice versa.

Some management officials are opposed to any form of such an arrangement. They are

From The St. Louis Globe-Democrat

THAT DANGLE AGAIN

COMES now another colorful literary purist who views carefree diction dimly and yows gumming-up of grammar is something he definitely isn't for.

Technically perhaps, it's a controversy he is on the right side of. But most folks are familiar with a lot of things the prosody preposition is good for, being especially handy as something to replace words one can't think of.

Personally, we favor the loose school. It's a necessary substitute for. At times like that, there's nothing like a shirital preposition. If the righteous critic denies,

big stake in putting their retirement fund on a sound financial basis. It is totally unfair for the younger members to contribute a part of their salaries to a retirement system that will be out of money when they reach retirement age.

The problem is a knotty one. To put the fund on a sound basis, the present salary contribution of 10 per cent (5 from the firemen, 5 contributed by the City) must be raised to 17 1/2 per cent, and kept there for 40 years.

A better solution might be to revise the benefits. Under the present plan, a fireman draws one-half his average salary for the last three years of his employment.

Whatever the solution, there must be more further delay in clearing up this mess. The politically-conscious firemen always play the safe card.

Members of the Fire Department have a turn, passed it back to the residents.

It is the City Manager's intention to operate the rough equivalent of a land-fill dump. As garbage is dumped, it will be covered with dirt, keeping down odors, rodents and insects.

We've thought all along that the City Manager's idea is the best solution yet advanced. The hot Summer months are over now, and the cool days ahead offer an ideal opportunity to try it out.

I believe the only way to meet the issue of this terrible war and bring peace to the world is a federal union of the free people of the world, especially the free people of the countries bordering the Atlantic Ocean.

"I intend that we should not say the 'wage-price spiral'. We should say the 'price-wage spiral'.

"What makes prices? Basically prices are made by the volume of the supply of goods and services available for purchase.

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What's So Funny About Them?



People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the Editors. The News reserves the right to condense.

What Would Ike Do About Korea?

THIS foolish war in Korea poses the dominant issue confronting the American people today. Of course, the Democratic Party is not in position to meet the issue and define a program to bring it to a successful conclusion because it is bolstering a false economy with the appeal for votes on the ground that we never had it so good and prosperous before.

In place of some of the silly questions the pressure groups are putting to General Eisenhower (like "what do you think of McCarthy?" or "Will you appoint a Negro to your Cabinet?") we would be better to ask him, "Do you have a program for ending this dangerous war in Korea?"

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Ike's Campaign Similar to Dewey's Disaster of 1944

BY MARQUIS CHILDS

ABOARD EISENHOWER CAMPAIGN TRAIN

IT HAS BEEN said that in laying down the line to be followed in his campaign General Eisenhower is following the same pattern as that followed by Dewey in 1944.

Certainly thus far Eisenhower has failed to make the appeal to independents and borderline Democrats which many of his early backers expected him to make.

Eisenhower will face exactly the same dilemma that confronted Gov. Thomas E. Dewey four years ago. That is to appear to the voters as a platform with Republican opponents of the Eisenhower foreign policy.

In the year the New York Governor, for the first time the standard bearer of his party, started out in a "fairly measured fashion to make a series of speeches outlining his policies.

Then while the Dewey campaign train was moving eastward, President Roosevelt, in his fourth term, made his wickedly clever speech before the Teamsters in Washington.

It is sometimes forgotten that Dewey waged two Presidential campaigns—two quite different strategies. If he is to go on as he has begun, the parallel in his party stopped at — a name of historic significance — Neeley.

For your information, the Episcopal Church and several other churches have under consideration similar plans.

—JOHN HOWARD CARPER, Chairman MCGILL SMITH, Vice-Chairman OSCAR SEARLEY, Secretary, Committee on World Peace Western N. C. Conference

Unitarian Presidents

Editors, The News: I want to congratulate the Charlotte Unitarian Church. It was a revelation to me to find that the Unitarians have furnished this great country of ours with a tie for the third largest number of Presidents of any religious organization.

For my information I find that this great country of ours has had: 1—Episcopalian Presidents 2—Presbyterian Presidents 3—Methodist Presidents 4—Baptist Presidents 5—Disciple Presidents 6—Congregational President 7—Quaker President

I trust that this will be of interest to you. (Editors Note: The Unitarian Presidents were: John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Millard Fillmore, and William Howard Taft.)

Dog Days Over

Editors, The News: LINCOLN Dean of Lincolnville is really serious about it. I'm running for governor. I would like to offer one suggestion. I believe it has been going to the dogs for the past 20 years of Democrat maladministration.

Thus, with the GOP split worse than general suspected, Eisenhower yielded to midroad advisers who said he had to beat the Taft breach.

Two of these advisers—Sen. Frank Carlson of Kansas and Alex Smith of New Jersey—arranged the breakfast in Ottawa, Canada, in which a part of a month urging Taft to get wholeheartedly into the campaign, arguing that Taft and Ike would be an unbeatable team: Ike on foreign policy, Taft on domestic issues.

Taft, at the first balked, said his wing of the party was opposed to Dewey control, would be flatly opposed to having Dewey in the Cabinet.

Taft's Statement

When Taft got to New York the night before the breakfast he handed Senator Carlson a copy of the now-famous "joint" statement. In a corner was written in green ink: "For Senator Carlson. To be given only to General Eisenhower."

Next morning, at breakfast, Taft broke the ice with: "I want to congratulate you for taking off the gloves."

careful text of a speech he was to make in Oklahoma City and launched into an old-fashioned "give-em-bell campaign."

"Never before in our history has corruption been so rampant," Dewey blazed out.

"Dewey lost the election by 100 electoral votes to 29. He was not magic and the war had not yet ended. But it was an unprecedented kind of course, against the FBI."

"On top of this there is the issue of communism which the government has not handled properly."

"Eisenhower, who played such a taking business of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, a making it work may at times wear a frown, but there are many who save India. And isn't it a pity to be saying something about it?"

"I am sure that the government will make it work."

"I am sure that the government will make it work."

What?—Women Dressing For Men Rather Than Other Girls?

By ROBERT C. RUARK

Sophie's gals are models is what they walk as all models walk—as if momentarily expecting a kick in the pants, and they smile as all models smile—as if they were bravely controlling a mounting nausea.

The formal stuff is not so much that you feel like you have stumbled into a boudoir, but there's your change of mood. It's the French school of culture, which believes down to the last sixpence that a designer that was intended to make women ugly, because so many of these boys are not handsome enough girls from a practical standpoint.

For many a weary year, though, the American dame has faithfully followed the bad jokes on themselves, perpetrated by the foreigners, and have succeeded in looking remarkably foolish in many occasions.

Sophie is a rare thing in the fashion field. She thinks clothes should make "women pretty," not ugly. This is rank heresy if you ask the designers of the French school of culture, which believes down to the last sixpence that a designer that was intended to make women ugly, because so many of these boys are not handsome enough girls from a practical standpoint.

There is a lot of simplicity and a lot of black and white and rich color and some shiny sparkles and even an average dame might manage to look good in it. Sexy enough, but not vampish, and healthy enough, but not humpus bumpus.

While pitying the pathetic suggestibility of the American woman to what she has been told is high style—she'll be mad at it if it somebody tells 'em it's chic—have been sover still at the cynical style switches, from short to long, from the matter of it. I will say a brand-new wardrobe for milady every year. It is a racket to look good, dissatisfied and the old man broke.

It is high time the girls started dressing for the boys instead of for themselves, and I do believe Miss Gimbel has started a healthy trend.

Eisenhower Disagreement

EISENHOWER was a little surprised when Taft pulled out the seven-page statement from his pocket. Taft had assumed that the President had agreed on most of it, Eisenhower penciling in some changes.

Their only real disagreement was regarding aid to Europe and the NATO agreement, which the general considered important to block the spread of Communism.

"On that subject," said Taft with a smile, "let us say that the President's position is in line with the one I will support you even though we may not see eye-to-eye on everything."