

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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LEGISLATURE OPENS ON A NOTE OF HARMONY

(Editorial Correspondence)

RALEIGH—The convening of a state General Assembly is always an interesting event. From the nills of the Far West, from the rolling Piedmont, from the plains of the Tideland they come—lawers, businessmen, farmers, men chosen by the people to meet once every two years to write their laws, fix their taxes and provide the needed services of the state government.

There is always the electric tingle of anticipation . . . the twinge of uncertainty . . . the hint of trouble . . . the blending of faces and accents . . . the forging of new

It is democracy in action, the working of an instrument fashioned by the people to con-duct their public affairs. It is fascinating to watch it:

duct their public affairs. It is fascinating to watch it:

THIS WEEK the 1953 session of the I North Carolina General Assembly got under way. This time, in addition to the usual overtones, there was change in the air—a change, not at all subtle, that is taking place within the flexible framework of North Carolina's rather renarkable one-party system, a change in government philosophy no less fundamental than that provided by the national two-party system in Washington this month.

month.

It is a change from the aggressive, dynamic and militant Go Forward program of W. Kerr Scott to a more moderate and more conservative four years under William Umstead. And it will bring about other changes in programs, in faces, in attitudes.

Many of the legislators who were here in 1949 are still in the House and the Senate. Unlike Mecklenburg County, which seldom returns a Representative or a Senator more than asfew terms, there are counties and Senatorial districts that keep a man in office a long time so that he may pile up experience and prestice, and thus wield great influence.

Though many of the faces are the same, Though many of the faces are the same,

Though many of the faces are the same. Though many of the faces are the same, other contrasts between this session and that of 1949 are clear and sharp. Then, the Legislature, not knowing what to expect from the unpredictable and imperturbable Scott, had its guard up from the first day of the session in anticipation of conflict with the Governor. Mr. Scott, in turn, had a chip on his shoulder.

THIS YEAR the guard is down. Amiabil-

THIS YEAR the guard is down. Amiabil-It ity and good humor are the rule. And though the Assemblynen did not know the contents of the Unsteed inaugural address, they were confident that there would be no Irreconcilable conflicts in the weeks to come. The warmth and friendliness was noticeable everywhere that legislators came together to renow acquaintances. It showed itself in the unanimous selection of Eugene T. Bost of Charrus as Speaker of the House and of Edwin Pate of Scotland as President protein of the Senate. It was in evidence when the House laughingly "drafted" Ralph Monger of Sanford for reading cierk, after he had said he didn't want the job and coulint accept it, and when Coustin Way-land Spruill of Bertie, a casually in last Spring's primary, was restored to the fellowship of his former colleagues by his selection as Sergeantial-Arms.

If the air was lunh with amiability, it was

also full of rumors. The Governo-elect has sped the Sphynx where his inaugural address and his probable appointments are concerned, and there has been much speculation about both (including the persistent talk ground that Charlotte Ben Dougle of the State Highway Commission). Benefit of the State Highway Commission, Bont, too, hasn't done or said anything about committee appointments, despite the fact that his election has long been agreed upon, nor has Lieutenant-Governor-elect Hodges. And since committee chairmen exert strong influence on legislation, these appointments are being awaited with great interest.

Influence on legislation, there appointments are being awaited with great interest.

A PART from the amiability and the rumors, the shakedown week for the 1953 session had other interesting aspects. Much is expected of the new Speaker. He is a very colorul gent—agacious, shrewd, forthright, and fearless. When his mettle is tested, he is apt to secon tact and diplomacy and speak his mind, as he did two years ago when he looked up at the balcony and bilaterly denounced the "pressure" tactics of the new Speaker ary that he will be fair, but that he interesting presiding officer. Mr. Alodges brings a fresh enthulaum to politics not denn found among veterans. A retired business executive, he ignored many of the rules of politics when he ran against the veteran State Senator Roy Rowe of Burgaw. He campaigned in every county of the state, confessed that he was an amatter, refused to make any commitments or pledges, and asked only to serve the state that had been so good to him. He swept to a convincing victory. Eager almost to the point of boylshmest od he his job well, he has shown no signs that his desire to please will wenke his independent judgment. Otherwers are interested also in the activities this term of John Unstead with make they distance, and to disagree on others. And those who know John Umstead well say that he will fight just as hard against Brother Bill, when they disagree, as he will fight with him, when they disagree, as he will fight that him, when they disagree, as he will fight with him.

UNTIL the Governor's program is spelled out in his inaugural address and assimilated by the members of the General Assembly, and until committee chairmen and members are selected, the shape of the Umstead Administration must remain vague. But a good beginning has been made toward laying the foundation for harmony and confirmation. soon beginning has been made toward laying the foundation for harmony and codeferation between the legislative and executive branches of the state government. There are times when a governor has to build a fire under the Legislature, and there are times when a Legislature, and there are times when a Legislature, and the propers of action. But generally, the best progress and the most lasting progress will be made when both branches work together on problems common to all of us.

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mon to all of us.

It is upon that note that a new Governor and a new General Assembly take office.

C. A. McKNIGHT

THE STATE OF THE UNION

THE President's "State of the Union".

The Resident's "State of the Union".

The Resident's was, as billed, designed forthe binistory books, it would have been more useful to the historians had it Included recognition and admission of the outgoing Administration's mistaker (some of them concurred in by the opposition) such as the late awakening to Communist design, the Johnson decleres cutback, the medicerity and ineptitude of many officials. What he said questroys have said many times before, and few of this generation at least are going to change their opinion, fro or con, of the Truman Administration because of this valedictory. Nevertheless, the creams of this valedictory. Nevertheless, the President repeated, in his simple and direct fashion, some fundamental ideas that war-rant a good deal of repetition. Chief among them, in our opinion, were these:

them, in our opinion, were these:

His defense, in not so many words, of the
"guns-and-butter" program: As he noted, "we
have had to carry a musket while we went
about our peaceful business." We have to
maintain a peaceful environment if free institutions are fo survive. But to do this, we
can't drop everything else and concentrate
on armies and weapons. We have to continue
to help create conditions of economic and
social progress in the world "jin order to
meet the non-military aspects of the Communist drive for power" and because "this
creative effort toward human progress is
essential to bring about the kind of world
we as free men want to live in."

And, the President well said, "we must

And, the President well said, "we must enew our confidence in one another, our olerance, our sense of being neighbors, fel-we citizens. We must_agke our stand on till of Rights. The inquisition, the star cham-Bill of Rights. The inquisition, the sta ber, have no place in a free society.

-ber, have no place in a free society."

Perhaps - uninentionally, the 'President
made a point that makes us wonder about
the future role of Vice-President-elect Nixon.
Mr. Truman recalled that he, eight years
ago, was 'thrust os suddenly into the complexities and burdens of the Presidential
office,' and is properly proud of the orderly
transition, he and President-elect Eisenhower
have arranghed. Although Mr. Nixon wants,

and Mr. Eisenhawer reportedly plans for him. a more responsible role than Vice Presidents usually fill. Nixon has been strictly on the outside of President-lect Eisenhower's inner circle so far, from all reports we're seen. We would have much reports we're seen. We would have much been seen we're been we're

AN APOLOGY

OCCASIONALLY this newspaper unwit-tingly does an injustice to a public official by misrepresenting his position or otherwise misinterpreting his motives. When it is brought to our attention that we have done so, we feel it only fair to make amends.

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Back in December, this newspaper quoted
what we believed to be reliable reports that
State Senator Fred H. McIntyre favored
abolishing the semi-autonomus Park & Recreation Commission and putting public recreation Commission and putting public rec-reation under a regular City department, subject to the administration of the City Manager and City Council.

The editorial opposed this idea, and was critical of Mr. McIntyre.

critical of Mr. McIntyre.

Mr. McIntyre has informed us by letter
and by personal conversation that his position had been misrepresented, that he did
not then and does not now favor abolishing
the Park & Recreation Commission. That
being the case, we are pleased to make due
apology to him, and to express our regrets
at having misrepresented his position on
the question.



'Heil, Comrade'

150 Years Of The News And Courier

'Sometimes Wrong—Seldom Neutral'

The man of the year, by any standards, was Napoleon. The Courier was against him.

The man of the year, by any standards, was Napoleon. The Courier was against him. The Colonia of the Colonia of Europe—that mixture of cunning and efferencess which distinguishes him from other men. The newspaper saw the threat of possible dismemberment of our empire and the dissolution of the Union.

The Courier prospered along with South Carbinator of the Confederate War. Starting as a Federalist newspaper, it later opposed Nullification as espounded by John C. Calhoun.

Big 'Beat' In 1812

Big 'Beat' In 1812

O'Ke of its outstanding "beats" involved the Ward fills? In those days the best and quick-est way to get news was to board incoming versions of the state had concluded a perfect treatly at Ghent near by two months before. It was the first word of the state had concluded a perfect treatly at Ghent near by two months before. It was the first word of the state of

War Began-On Page Two

WHEN the first shots were fired on Fort Sum-ter the story appeared under a one-column head on page two of the issue of April 13, 1861. Shortly thereafter, war news was moved to the front page—somewhat of an innovation in those

Couldn't Take Roosevelt

Couldn't Take Roosevelt

BUT as son as Mr. Roosevelt fook the country

off the gold standard, The News and Courier
came out against the New Deal. When Mr. Roosevelt proposed a whole new concept of legislation
which the newspaper thought was a violation of
states rights, the newspaper left the Democratic

Just as The News and Courier had been one
of the first Southern newspapers to oppose Prohibition, so it became one of the first newspapers in
the country to leave the Democratic ranks during
the strip years. We all the desired for the results of the strip years of the property of the

would mean Charleston might lose federal appro-would mean Charleston might lose federal appro-mice of the Charleston might lose federal appro-mice of the Charleston of the Democratic ranks, for the Charleston of the Democratic ranks, for the Charleston of the Charleston of the Garden of the Charleston of the Charleston of the States Rights Party, and the States Rights Party took South Carolina ways from Mr. Truman in the 1948 election. He died Oct. 1, 1902. Mr. Ball and is the present editor, is the son and name-aske of another well known Charleston newspaper-man, who for years edited The Charleston Dev-pendent of the Charleston of the Charleston ser owned by the same publishing company. Ed-ward Manigault is publisher and Hall T. McGe-general manager.

ward Manigault is publisher and fail 1. according general manager.

Under Mr. Waring, The News and Courier-helped initiate the South Carolinians for Eisenhower movement in the 1952 elections. James A. Best is managing editor and Frank B. Gilbreth associate editor.

The Horrible Facts About H-Bombs Should Be Faced

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

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In their New Year's review of the last year, the shle editors of time magnitum made a still takes 5,000 years for a complement, "turned a bord and states, they remarked with some complement, "turned a bord and states, they remarked with some complement, "turned a bord and states, they remarked with some complement, "turned a bord and states, they remarked with some complement, "turned a bord and states, they remarked with some complement, "turned a bord and states to exclude the stagnificance of the successful test of the first American between the significance of the successful test of the first American between the significance of the successful test of the first American between the significance of the successful test of the first American between the significance of the successful test of the first American between the significance of the successful test of the first American between the significance of the successful test of the first American between the significance of the successful test of the first American between the significance of the successful test of the significance of the successful the successful test of the significance of the successful test of t

Even The GOP Must Budget For Some Of These Items

By FREDERICK C. OTHMAN

BIGGEST literary vents of the season, namely, the president's budget, is about to hit our town with a small thad. This is a shame, kind of A great deal of hard work weet finto the miles are too lose his job.

This handsome book will run around 1,200 pages, weigh nearly six pounds, and cost 55. The Embassy in Cairo needs this year, were he not about to lose his job.

This handsome book will run around 1,200 pages, weigh nearly six pounds, and cost 55. The budget is to be the president went even received for any such practical uses.

Sili and all, Mr. Truman is gomestically the budget is to be chopped into too many pict. The six pounds, are as a matter of course; it jack in case of a flat tire. This time apparently the budget is to be chopped into too many pict. The six pounds, and the six pounds, and the six pounds, and the six pounds are the six pounds. The six pounds are the six pounds and the six pounds are the six pounds are the six pounds and the six pounds are the six

Key McCarthy Witness Flew The Coop Merry-Go-Round

Merry-Go-Round

Washington

One of the most sensational aspects of the McCarthy
investigation was not known even to the Senate Elections Committee members themselves. It was the sudden
flight from the U. S. of a key wimes and friend of McCarthy the Committee of the Carthy the Carthy
Mrs. Bentley, formerly married to the new GoD Congressman from Michigan. Alvis Bentley, skipped out of
the country under the assumed name of Mary Peterson.
Reason for her huntried exit was because she had officially
given \$7,000 to McCarthy, which is more than the legal
ther ex-husband had actually given around \$75,000.

Naturally, she didn't want to be cross-examined by the
Senate Elections Committee.

Mrs. Bentley is a society lady living next door to
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Mrs. Bentley is a society lady living a next door to
Mrs. Bentley is a society lady living a friend.

When the Senate Elections Committee got booled
of McCarthy's. Now divoced, she is still a friend.

When the Senate Elections Committee got booled
sher, asked to see her. But the fleve the coop before a
subpoena could be served. Boarding an Eastern Ar Lines
plane at 1. A. Nov. 28. he arrived in Missau
Meanwhile, her Washington lawyer, Joseph Rafferty,
claimed he didn't know where she was, though actually
she was in touch with him and asked him to get certain
records of canceled checks from the Riggs National Bank.

Testing the committee of the set of

turned to New York, but flew back to the Bahamas after the storm had blown over in order to pick her up and eacort her back to Washington.

The storm had blown over in order to pick her up and eacort her back to Washington.

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"It was a personal victory for Eisenhower rather than the position through circultious channels in Wasconsian where it was used to speculate on sopheans.

Congressian Bentler, when interviewed by the Sendroff of the storm of the storm

Sam Rayburn Fights

Sam Rayburn Fights

Sam RayBurn, the redoubtable Texan who celebrated

Dis Tist birthday this week, was heartfroken when
the Democrate lost last Kommers, and the Democrate lost last Kommers, and the Commers

Botham. Texas, where he is building a library to house
his books, the records of some 20 Congresses, and the
gavels he has weleded when Churchill, the Queen of England, MacArthur, Eisenhower et al. addressed Congress.

But his old friend and brother-his-N, Judge Marvin
him not to resign. And the other day, when Sam stepped
down as Speaker and took the humble potition of minortity leader, he delivered a lighting pep talk to the closeddoor session of House Democrate v-texty for the Re
"The recent election was not a view." All it demophilican Party, dectationally, advertised product, whose
place in the sun was made possible largely by two Demo-

Support For Ike