

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS



THOMAS L. ROBINSON, Publisher; J. E. DOWD, General Manager; B. S. GRIFFITH, Executive Editor; C. A. MCKNIGHT, Editor

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Police Chief Needs More Authority

IT IS DIFFICULT to say anything about the Charlotte Police Department without having either the enemies of Chief Frank N. Littlejohn or the friends of the department have been heard...

protection against the whim, caprice or vindictiveness of a chief of police. But it can also be argued, equally convincingly, that civil service should never be a protection for a lazy or inefficient or careless public servant.

Elsewhere on this page, our Dick Young describes the limitations upon the chief's authority. He cannot promote a man without the approval of the Civil Service Commission.

He cannot demote a man until he has made written charges to the Civil Service Commission, after which a hearing must be held.

Heed The Lesson Of China And Korea

THERE is building up in Washington a substantial opposition to increased aid for Indochina and, specifically, the dispatch of U. S. civilian technicians to that frontier, as ordered by Adm. Radford.

Influential senators of both parties, Democrats Byrd, Stennis and George and Republican Saltonstall, doubt the wisdom of sending the technicians. Majority Leader Knowland assured the Senate that the administration has no intention of going a further step and sending combat forces to the beleaguered country.

The point was developed in the President's press conference yesterday that the senators were misled because they were not duly consulted regarding the dispatch of technicians.

There is a disturbing similarity between official views expressed here and those expressed before the China debacle. The great outcry for aid to China came, you recall, after the Communists

Truth About The State Department

THE MOST assiduously cultivated of the McCarthy myths was that the State Department, under President Truman, was full of Communists.

In February, 1950, McCarthy began his rise to fame with a speech in Wheeling, W. Va., in which he held in his hand a list of 205 "card-carrying" Communists in the State Department.

In later speeches he reduced the number, and softened his accusation to say that they were people "with Communist connections."

In the next four years, McCarthy darted from one target to another, but always returned to the State Department. Even after John Foster Dulles took over, McCarthy kept up his steady drumfire.

What are the facts? Joseph and Stewart Alsop, in their article on Page 1 of This News yesterday, gave them.

R. Scott McLeod, State Department From The Milwaukee Journal

TOP NEWS

WHAT makes news? To a large extent it depends on the part of the world in which you live—and the things that make news can be quite revealing.

An item in the Hungarian newspaper ESTI BUDAPEST offers a good example. A woman named Teresia Eppinger, reports the paper, went to buy some coal at the Tucker fuel depot No. 1 in Budapest.

stock of briquet coal had run out. If Mrs. Eppinger would leave her phone number, Mrs. Banki would call her as soon as the coal was available.

What's news about that? Wait for the punch line. The very next day, exultantly reports ESTI BUDAPEST, Mrs. Banki telephoned Mrs. Eppinger and told her the coal had arrived.

In captive Hungary, under much-awaited Communist economy, that's news!

Spotlight



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.

Disapproves Dressing Room Interviews

Charlotte Editors, The News: WE understand that you are not responsible for theories or criticism expressed by writers in "The People's Platform," which is reasonable.

Presidents Assume Too Much Power

Pittsboro Editors, The News: THE CHANCES are that there will be but little, if any, change to check the trend of government away from the people, which the Bricker amendment was designed to do.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON THROUGH the Republican National Committee plans a campaign chest of \$3.8 million for next November's election. Hubert Humphrey, the candidates so far appear a minus quantity.

Nation Needs No Inland Seaports

Washington, D. C. Editors, The News: WITH reference to your editorial of Jan. 25 on the St. Lawrence seaway entitled "Progress Along the St. Lawrence," we are reading in the newspapers every day of the plight of the American Merchant Marine.

Democrats Thankful They Aren't Still In Office

WASHINGTON THESE facts of life cannot be stressed too often. Whether the Democrats, with their many divisions and camps, can ever near to solving the riddles of our day is the question that casts a long shadow across the difficulties the Republicans are having.

Protecting Republicans

WIP Robert, Ex-treasurer of the Democratic National Committee, is a lifelong Democrat but was dining with a group of Republicans when the subject of Eisenhower men paid tribute to the cooperation they were getting from Democrats.

Civil Service Act Limits Chief's Power To Reorganize

By DICK YOUNG, Charlotte News Staff Writer

Full authority over the personnel of the City Police Dept. and the Fire Dept., too, for that matter, does not rest with the Chief. The Civil Service Commission is the final arbiter over all questions affecting the conduct of a police officer and his continued service as a member of the department, removed or discharged.

The Chief doesn't have the final say-so about discharging a member of the force. In fact, the Civil Service Commission must approve a promotion or demotion for an officer, made by the chief. The Civil Service Act says: "No officer or employee of the Fire or Police Department of the City of Charlotte shall be dismissed, removed or discharged except for cause upon written complaint signed by the chief."

OTHER STIPULATIONS There are stipulations regarding this appeal which the officer must carry out. He must file with the secretary of the Civil Service Board a bond in the sum of \$100 as security for the payment of the costs in the event such costs are assessed against him.

Democracy's Power To Reorganize

Conceding promotions and demotions in the police department, provided however that if any officer or employee wishes to do so he may appeal from the order of the Civil Service Board by giving written notice of appeal to said board with copy to the chief within five days from the issuance of said order.

Democracy's Power To Reorganize

It lacks a majority in the Senate and the nominal Republican majority of two or three in the House cannot be counted as a stand behind major pieces of administration legislation. The split is so close, it may be the country as well as in the Congress, that whether the Democrats would form a government takes any more likely is a doubtful parliamentary majority is stable.