

Council Sticks To Its Guns

CITY COUNCIL has stuck to its guns in the face of a good deal of criticism...

Their action required a good deal of courage. Prohibitionists forces have served notice that they are opposed to the separate election...

There is no more uncomfortable an issue for a politician to face than prohibition. If he takes a stand against it...

Those Who Are In The Same Shape . . .

WHEN we published Tom Fesperman's graphic story of life at Morris Field, the town's indigent veterans' housing project...

There is a good deal of truth in this, we think. The human conscience is a wonderfully adaptable instrument. A veteran who is living with his family in a corner...

Gone Are The Days . . .

WE yield to no man in our devotion to the new Progressive Conservative Party label, and look, as a rule, unblinkingly upon the face of change...

We have been contemplating the architect's drawings of two Charlotte fire stations, proudly hailed as a new departure in fire station layout...

The only clue to the purpose of these structures lies in the abnormally large windows and the lack of chimney stacks...

Where in these neat and handsome structures will a man find the rummy game, the checker board with its kibitzers? There will be the fireman who is also a part-time veterinarian...

ative of anyone proposing its legal sale unless he is completely venal. As we understand it, the Council's attitude is much the same as ours. It would reject prohibition not because it desires to flood the town with strong drink...

All of which seems to us to provide a good and sufficient motive for a City Council, which includes an unusual proportion of teetotalers, by the way, to provide the citizenry with a chance to vote on prohibition. But this is a logical argument...

The Council knew, of course, that its action would be indefensible to the voters of a good many voters. It went ahead anyway, and without question the Councilmen lost some votes. But we like to think that they also earned the support of those citizens...

1921 And 1947

SEVENTY-SIX years ago today they were predicting that the bright, shiny new year of 1921 would surely halt the business collapse and that the incoming Republicans would get everyone's daily living comfortably back to normalcy...

Two lines of prediction greet the new year. One is the history inevitably repeats itself; that every severe inflation is followed by sharp business collapse, every great war by spiritual let-down and retreat in life and morals...

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Clue To Tomorrow

THE objective of our peacetime Army is a volunteer force of 1,070,000 select men who are able physically and mentally to master the complicated technical problems of a modern military organization...

Today as the country has just chalked up the highest record in its history for retail food prices, everyone wonders whether the slashing of fur coat prices, the mark-down sales in women's clothing, the reduction in the price of automobiles...

Politically, much of the country awaits the Congress with the same hopeful, back-to-normalcy attitude which greeted the new republic in 1921. However, now, unlike then, the Nation is set on the path of a new era.

Today, however, the shocking war-contract scandals of Senator Elmer Wheeler and Rep. Max Baucus have given Republican leaders a real chance to apply the new law. The man who registers his private stock-market operations, his fees received by his firms, and the financial interests he holds in various companies...



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The Army Life

TAKEING it all in all, a career in Uncle Sam's Army offers the nearest thing to sure-fire success that a man can find...

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Harold Ickes GOP And U. S. Debt

FOR the past ten years or so, moulton back-bone walls have been built from Republican "views with alarm" about the national debt...

This proposal, if now adopted, would mean that whenever Congress estimated that approval would reach a point where a tenth of the national debt would be applied on the debt, the Congress would be required to levy additional taxes to reduce it, within two years, the difference.

Senator Wilson is a relative newcomer to the Senate and he does not want to disillusion his supporters with the prospect of a Republican Congress adopting such a plan. However, I am sure that he will be interested in previous performance by Republican Administrations. Who was it said, "I have no objection to judging the future but by the past?"

At the end of the first world war, the high point of indebtedness reached by the Federal Government was \$25,500,000,000. That was the remembrance of two wars and two assassinations. In June and July of 1921 this had been reduced by slightly over \$2,000,000,000.

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Samuel Grafton Prospects For 1947

THERE will be great changes in our ways of thinking this year, we think. The arrival of a buyers' market, with the consequent rise in prices and the light to the light more, and pinching it before buying. The really significant psychological change will be America's slow absorption of the fact that the Government which intends to keep hands off our economy, one who will have to use the market's muck-up come along? Who, or what, will be the market's muck-up?

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reduced the national debt by only three-fifths as much as Wilson had planned for two years. In short, the Republican Party brought down the national debt by 20 per cent in twelve years. To state it differently, the Republican Party paid on the average for the whole period but quite one-half of one per cent of the national debt during each year of its administration.

APPLAUS PROPOSAL NOW, I for one, applaud Senator Wilson's proposal. I believe in his word and that he will be forthcoming in the direction of reducing the national debt. But I would caution him that one reason for the Republican failure to reduce the national debt was its political axiomatic to make it income tax. In 1921 the new Congress reduced this tax by 15 per cent. Again, in 1924, the income tax was reduced, in order to bring the five-year period to 1926, another tax reducing law was passed. In 1928, still another revenue law was passed. In 1932, "we don't need the money" and the income tax was reduced. In 1935, the year of tumbling prices, the income tax was reduced. In 1939, the year of the impending ruin, the Republican administration reduced the income tax. In 1942, the year of the national debt that might well have been wiped out.

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Hands-Off Policy

FOR now we have a Government consisting of a conservative Legislature and a liberal Executive, which, in spite of its liberal protestations, no longer takes an active part in the economic problems; it is a Government which is in a position to be actively examining its fingernails should unemployment, late this year, reach the level of 15 to 20 per cent, as has been suggested.

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