

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday by The News Publishing Company, Inc.

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W. C. Dowd, 1885-1927

The daily edition of The Charlotte News was established in 1833. The Evening Chronicle (established 1903) was purchased by and consolidated with The Charlotte News May 5, 1914.

The News desires to be notified promptly of errors in any of its reports that proper correction may be made at once.

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By carrier: 20 cents a week; one month, 87 cents; by mail: One month, 87 cents; three months, \$2.60; six months, \$5.00; one year, \$10.00.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1942

Navy Day

Battle Thunder Marks Only Celebration on the Seas

Out across the seas of the world, its ocean forces striking almost desperately at the enemy in a historic struggle for survival, the Navy of the United States has no time to pause in celebration of its 17th birthday. Afloat, the fighting Navy is commemorated with the hard, hard sound of battle. In uncounted engagements the defiant roll of the thrumming whine of planes, the thrumming of submarines below the surface, the cacophony of bursting bombs and the heavy losses that in all other wars it has fought. The enemy, though forced to pay terrible tolls in turn, has at great gaps in the Navy's ranks.

Billion No. 1

General Motors Production A Monument to Industry

The first billion, General Motors reports, is already spent and the goods it bought have rolled off the assembly lines and been delivered into battle. The giant of the automobile industry, some ten months after war exploded, has reached the first towering peak of war-winning production. Today more than a private company, GM is an arsenal for a people's army. The story of the first billion comes as an indication of the all-inclusive nature of the figures Hitler thought fantastic and astronomical have come alive in these plants alone, where 341,000 American workers and over 300,000 supplementary contractors' employees have been turning out battle equipment over 46 hours every week and that is once the incredible capacity of U. S. automobile builders is now dwarfed. For today ships alone are demanding and getting more steel than the motor industry used in peace time.

General Motors, of course, is one of hundreds hurrying the decision to elemental production, but its case is outstanding because its sprawling plants are in full swing, probably turning out more arms than the combined nations of Europe. From its lines roll engines of all types: trucks, tanks, planes, guns, propellers, ammunition and myriad supplies.

Here's How

Heavy American Firepower Puts Fighters Out of Date

From London the other night, for the first time, came the secrets which have made American bombers the terror of Continental skies, and the additional news that they will be even better tomorrow. As a completely new weapon for gaining mastery of the air, the big ships, U. S. style, have good reason to be making their own history.

All Is Accord

Broughton Adds Another Feather To His Cap

Governor Broughton's settlement of the controversy over the proposed amendment to the State Constitution is another feather in a cap that by now is generously bedecked. Not a few years ago North Carolina, despite the high standard of its Governors, enjoyed so proficient an administration that the two years of the Broughton term have really been something to see.

Josh Did It

Liquor Stalled Congress

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON. MOST painful vote of the year for Senators came on the Lee proposal to dry up army camp areas, although the pipes were confined to the classroom. It made the author, Senator Lee, of Oklahoma, the most unpopular man in Congress.

With the election in which they must face the voters only next week, here was Senator Lee (whose own election situation at home was reported more favorable than their) requiring them to vote on a proposition which the dry voters wanted and their Administration did not want.

As uncomfortable as any was the Administration Leader Alben Barkley of Kentucky. He was an old-time dry, and in 1917 proposed the House bill which brought the first prohibition, a bill prohibiting the use of foodstuffs for the manufacture of liquor in wartime. War Secretary Stimson's opposition to the amendment, and perhaps some other pressure on Barkley that was not so obvious, made him take another stand this time. He could not do otherwise, as he was the leader. It was he who figured out the side-tracking device, by which the whole matter was thrust back into the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

Where Was The News?

What is known as "The Liberal Element" is now going after the War Department News Bureau for not having told us—incidentally, by also the Japs—that one of the Doolittle bombers was lost in the Tokyo raid last April. This group has long cast its eye at the war, as well as the Navy news sections, the only two remaining outside Elmer Davis' OWI fold.

Other matters being brought up against War News Department are that it publicly informed Ford's bomber production was underway long before the assembly line was actually turning out any appreciable number of planes, and that it got involved in a financial mess in a prizefight.

The fact is the department publicity was technically accurate but deceptive in what it failed to tell about the bomber lost and the Ford production.

If there are two subjects which can be considered valid military secrets, it is the subjects of losses and plane production. If the American public was ill-informed, so was Hitler, and the results of that action will do the public more good than if the announcements were candidly made.

As for the Louis-Corn fight, it was not a military secret and does not matter.

The only reason the subjects are being mentioned is to put civilian authority over War and Navy. No one contends the OWI would have handled the matter any differently. This Government has always stood against civilian or political administrative control of either the Army or Navy. The idea was to make them independent, keep them out of politics.

What the Commander-in-Chief in the White House has always been their constitutional head, the reduction of their press system to subservience, under civilian government administration, would be a revolutionary encroachment.

The Davis experiment in centralized control of Government news (and official views as well) has developed into a novel news dispensing administration. The only way to describe it is that it follows the line of the personality of one man, Mr. Davis—fairness, level-headedness, but unexpected power. Out of it you get straighter news, but I think, less news.

An example was the strangely objective and detailed analysis of American plane efficiency, announced by Mr. Davis. In it he said some of them were as bad as had been said, but some types were good, and all would be better.

No one questions the facts Mr. Davis set forth, but for the Government to announce that anything it had done was not the best ever done, and that anyone who said differently was a liar, was a startling innovation in Government publicity.

There'll Be Plenty of Company Next March

—By Herblock



Our News Policy

One Long Pause

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON. WHENEVER anyone discusses the question of censorship and the find himself unwittingly talking, he is on delicate ground. He may avoid the enemy, but he is on delicate ground. He may avoid the enemy, but he is on delicate ground.

On the question of what will add the enemy, civilians must give the withholding of news in wartime. It is in doubt, or it is assumed that the military will always be in mind that there is public anxiety about the war and that the people ought to know at all times how the war is going, so far as that can be done without adding the element of incident of news withheld have in some cases aroused double as to whether the news has been given out as would have been possible.

The speech of Elmer Davis, director of OWI, in Montreal recently was interpreted widely as his congratulations to the Canadian Government on its prompt disclosure of Canadian casualties in the Dieppe raid. It is generally assumed that he is disappointed in some respects at the withholding of news. Without doubt Mr. Davis came to Washington determined to bring on his assignment to tell the American people as much about the war as could be safely done. It becomes more clear around here that he has been frustrated at times in that purpose.

One of the most disturbing incidents was the long-delayed release by the Navy of the news of the loss of three cruisers in the Solomon Islands landing last August.

Australia lost a cruiser in the same engagement and announced it ten days later. We waited more than two months to announce our own losses. The Japanese radio had broadcast similar, although exact, details. Our Navy explained that the news of the losses had to be withheld until our own announcements were provided. Perhaps so, yet that very explanation gives some information on the military carrier of view. If the delays are essential from a policy point of view, then more ought to be done to reduce the military reasons beyond strictly military ones. The present handling only encourages rumors that the news is being held back.

During the recent Guadalcanal campaign, communiques have cited minor successes, the bringing down of enemy aircraft and such, but without indicating the gravity of the situation as a whole.

Unquestionably newspaper headlines are worthy of attention. Newspaper men here working on the Guadalcanal story have a pretty good idea of what is going on and are able to convey in their headlines the headlines of the situation as a whole. The headlines are the headlines of the situation as a whole. The headlines are the headlines of the situation as a whole.

However, that situation would seem to make it all the more advisable that the Navy include in its communique a guiding setup of the real situation. That would transfer the burden of writing in cautioning terms. The reporter's speculation would be transferred to an official basis.

Some of our officials call this a people's war. It would help if it also considered this an American people's war.

Army & Politics

Danger Ahead

By Dorothy Thompson

WASHINGTON. ALL ELECTIONS are preceded by a good deal of demagoguery. The attempt of the Congress to place restrictions on the Army in regard to the handling of recruits, namely those of 18 and 19 is demagogic. It is a watching interest.

That it should be accompanied, in the case of Senators Taft, Tydings, and others, by reflections on the British only indicates that the isolationist spirit is not dead. Senator Tydings uses the occasion to suggest that he "does not want to see the United States doing too much of the licking. I want to see the others bearing their fair share of the burden."

I don't quite understand what Senator Tydings means. Field Marshal Smuts, the South African Premier, speaking before the Joint House of Commons and House of Lords a few days ago, was more gallant and more just. He thought of the millions of Russians dead, and the price to pay for that, that the United States should bear its share of the burden in this war. Congress also might remember that the United States had 50,000 casualties in the last war, to the British millions.

It also might remember that in the Battle of Britain, in which British fought singlehanded and alone and held the last fortress on the Atlantic, the civilian casualties were over fifty thousand, and that Britain's war losses to date are very comparable indeed.

I wonder what our impression would be if a Russian politician stood up in Moscow and said, "Let us not do too much of the licking. Now it's their turn." Unless the Russians have asked for Western offensive, they never for a moment suggested that they would then stop—until, perhaps, our casualties rose to their probable five millions.

Senator Tydings' remarks suggest a misunderstanding of the entire Allied situation. Up until now none of the Allies has done "too much of the licking." All of us, on the contrary, have received too much of a licking. And it is going to take all that we have got, all together, to win the Axis combination.

It is going to be quite impossible to win this war if each of the Allies says, "After you, gentlemen." That political attitude almost lost this war for us before it began.

But there is a further consideration. We not only have to win the war but we have to make a peace that will stick. I think that Congress hopes that the United States will have something to say about the peace. But you can't expect to win the war by the Russian, Chinese, and British bloodshed and then come out and tell them, "We, the Americans, will make the new world."

Actually, these restrictions proposed by Congress will disorganize the Army, and, therefore, add to our casualties in every group. That is why the Army is dumfounded by them.

All armies are jealous of manpower and anxious to fight with as few losses as possible. On the other hand, a soldier is a soldier, whatever his age may be.

Platform Of The People

Let's Stop Inflation

Editors, The News:

It may be that it's too late to stop inflation, but I would suggest a plan that seems like common sense to me. Instead of putting up with all this foolishness we should:

- Set a ceiling price on every commodity, to be equal to prices of 1941 plus 20 per cent. These prices should be placed on everything: commodities, rents, labor etc. Any person found guilty of breaking a ceiling should be fined the amount of the sale.
- Every contract for war purposes of every description should include a clause that 40 per cent of the contract price be paid in Victory Bonds, 10 per cent to be held by the contractor; 10 per cent by the subcontractors; 10 per cent by labor. In that way, bond sales would be sure and steady, the recipients would hold post-war security, and present reckless spending would be curbed.
- There should be only six taxes: Income, real estate, personal property, and man's worst enemy (sports, movies, tobacco, liquor), poll tax in connection with the poll tax—every voter should be made to pay a tax of \$5 unless absent or ill.
- On the income tax, every person

over eighteen who is working should pay taxes, on this scale:
Up to \$500 2-1/2% \$10 year \$4 per mo.
\$1000 3-1/2% \$25 \$2.08
\$2000 4-1/2% \$50 \$4.16
\$3000 5-1/2% \$75 \$6.25
\$4000 6% \$240 16.67
\$5000 6-1/2% \$325 22.92
\$10,000 7% \$700 50.00
\$20,000 10% \$2,000 142.86
\$30,000 12% \$3,600 270.00
\$50,000 25% \$12,500 90.91

—F. M. GAITHIWAIT
Charlotte.

Demom Rum Is A U. S. Enemy

Editors, The News:
Having read Mr. Feinberg's both of disgust and contempt the article by W. T. Bost in The News, I wish to go on record, so to speak, as being on the side of the so-called "zealots."

When I was a child my Christian mother and sober, God-fearing father taught me that alcohol was and is man's worst enemy and all through the years I have never had cause to question the truth of their teaching.

In those days a Christian didn't hold a Bible in one hand and a glass of "likker" in the other. Neither did he leave his Bible unread in the book-case, while the days were passing by. Decent people, Christian or not, were sober people and if an other-wise good citizen did make an occasional slip he was regarded as weak character and pitied because of his weakness.

Mr. Bost spoke contemptuously of the failure of prohibition, and being of sound mind and memory I can truthfully say that during the first fifteen years of the Pro-

hibition Era I did not see a half-dozen "drunks" around. I didn't live in a closet, either. Alcoholism is ruining our nation today; both for civilians and soldiers. In great numbers are being demoralized and rendered unfit for efficient service by this vile impostor, this destroyer of will power and decency, the poisonous narcotic which Mr. Bost calls "this kind, here" medicine.

God pity him! And anyone else who thinks he or she can be deluged with such a habit and not become a victim eventually. We are in deadly danger from our enemies, the Axis powers; and we continue to allow the free use of intoxicants to our own detriment. We need all our faculties if we are to vanquish our foes? We had better throw our likker bottles away, repent of our sins and get down to business, or we will not expect to win this war.

Hoarders of sugar, coffee, alk, hoke, shoes; mothers who would rather risk a Hitler victory than have their 18-year-old sons go into the Army—all of these, as well as the doctors, are helping to destroy our nation.

When are we going to awaken? The answer is: never.
—MRS. EDNA C. HENDRICKS
Dallas, N. C.

Visitin' Round

How'd That Again?
(North Wilkesboro Hustler)

It is said that the Bible might burn a railroad car load of coal in a short—believe some one not directly employed at the plant said—one cat a week.

Side Glances



"I know you're busy, Doc, but I'd rather have you than a regular horse doctor—old Prince seems so much like one of the family!"