

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS
And Evening Chronicle
Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday by
The News Publishing Company, Inc.
W. C. Dowd, Jr., President and General Manager
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The daily edition of The Charlotte News was established in 1853. The Evening Chronicle (established 1903) was purchased by and consolidated with The Charlotte News May 8, 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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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1942

Blueprint of Improvement
Suggestion of an Uptown Park Raises the Question of a City Planning Commission

Charles A. Stone, chairman of the City Parks & Recreation Commission, must be not only an audacious man but a persuasive one too. Appearing before the County Commissioners at their meeting last week, he coolly proposed that the valuable old Courthouse lot at Third and Tryon be converted into a public park—and he wasn't thrown out.
To the contrary, the Commissioners seemed more or less receptive, and suggested to Mr. Stone that he see if the City Council would match with cash the value of the County's property. In the past, Boards of Commissioners have taken the position that they were under no obligation to turn this property, just because it happened to be situated within the city, into a facility primarily for the benefit of the townpeople. Besides, it represents a considerable asset on the County's balance sheet. Something, the Commissioners mentioned, like \$400,000.
Nevertheless, Mr. Stone appeared to be making progress where others had given up. At the post, and a public park at Third and Tryon, complete with rest rooms, was more of a possibility than it had been for a long time. That raises a question.

War Chest
Increased Needs Must Be Met In Face of Many Demands

The Community Chest campaign now in full swing is at once striving to fill the greatest needs and overcome the greatest obstacles in its experience. The War Chest, as every citizen who has reflected general war conditions, is one that must not be forgotten.
Its workers have known full well how many were other demands upon the public, how constricted were many incomes, how bonds and taxes and increased living costs would have to come before Chest contributions. Knowing that, they undertook a job many times the size of any they had previously tackled.
For this year's Community Chest drive incorporates not only the fundamental objectives which have become a fixture in most American communities, it also extends the pressing needs of war agencies. If the Chest has ever been worthy of public support, it is doubly so in that year. Despite a certain lessened ability to pay, the good citizen will be quick to realize that this is no time to let the chest's pressing needs go. Quickly, he will do his part for the Chest work in wartime.
This organization which is a practical working part of American Democracy must have the same generous and enthusiastic answer it has received annually. But this time, it must be louder. Its great need balances all other considerations.

Navigators
Four Charlotte Squadrons May Spearhead Pacific Attack

The most dramatic job of the war, says the Navy, is going to be cleaning out the Japanese invaders from their island bases in the Pacific. It might be added that it also promised to be the most difficult. But drama and high adventure are waiting out there in the months ahead for the boys who will spearhead the attack leading to victory. Those are the boys of the Navy drive to enlist young aviators.
Navigators, they call them, and four squadrons of them, incorporated into the cadet program, will be organized and named for Charlotte. Naval officers reason that the city's young men will discern a similarity between the history of their hometown and the recent history of the Navy. One was struck heavy blows in the Revolution and Civil Wars, and came back. The other was almost completely pounded at Pearl Harbor, and quickly recovered.
Fifty or more young men will be accepted here as aviation cadets, to become part of the new fleet being forged by the Navy. They will be leaders when the offensive moves Westward toward Japan. The Navy looks for them, and welcomes their chance. So, of course, do we.

House Reception

Wilkie's Speech Was Pulled Apart

From the Congressional Record, Oct. 27, 1942

MR. PATMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am not qualified to criticize the able speech of the gentleman from Indiana, Mr. Wendell Wilkie, which was delivered over the radio last night. I am not qualified to criticize those who are running this war. I shall not attempt to criticize him either, but as one Member of this great body, representing the 300,000 people who reside in the district I have the honor to represent, I want to express my views about some parts of Mr. Wilkie's speech.
I listened to his speech with great interest. It was very interesting. Much of it was instructive. It gave me—and I am sure others—the same views—much information we need and that we desired.
There are some parts of Mr. Wilkie's speech that I am afraid will be misconstrued as advising that we should abandon a military strategy, that every layman should feel privileged to speak his piece about how the war is run and to be just a little bit free in criticizing our military leaders than they have been in the past. I hope that is not the feeling of people in general, because we do not need any more dissunity in this country than we have. I hope his speech will not be construed as an encouragement to the glibbers, the snipers, and those who grumble generally.
One statement in the speech that especially attracted my attention was Mr. Wilkie's question, "What are we fighting for?" I think the paramount issue is that we are fighting to prevent three international bandits and desperadoes—Hitler, Toke, and Mussolini—from the control of the world and of the 2,000,000,000 people who reside in this world. That is the major thing for which we are fighting. While the house is on fire and burning I think

we should devote our effort and attention to putting out the fire rather than trying to get the fire fighters to stop and decide on the kind of furniture which will be put back in the house after the house is restored or remodeled or improved.
MR. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. I take it, then, that the gentleman believes the rank and file of the American people know what we are fighting for, even though Mr. Wilkie may not know it?
MR. PATMAN. I think so, and the people of the world know what we are fighting for, to defeat and stop these international desperadoes. Then all these other questions can be settled later on.
I did not like Mr. Wilkie's reference belittling our production, because I think we have made wonderful progress in production to defend ourselves properly and be on the offensive now or later in this war. In the making of planes, tanks, ships, guns, and ammunition. It is true, possibly, that we have not been able to send all of these materials to China and to Russia that we would like to. That is another part of Mr. Wilkie's speech I did not like, criticizing us for not sending more to China and to Russia, and for making promises that we have not fulfilled.
Every promise that was made was made in the very best of faith. If any promise has failed of performance by reason of an act of God or the public enemy, it is excusable. No nation or its leaders should be indicted for every act of God or the public enemy. It is true, possibly, that was absolutely impossible for that nation to carry out.
MR. COX. Does not the gentleman believe the American public has pretty well taken the measure of Mr. Wilkie?

and, therefore, is paying very little attention to what he says?
MR. PATMAN. No; I do not agree that they pay very little attention. I think they pay a great deal of attention to what he says. I think his attitude has been rather commendable since this war started, in many ways. I think he has elevated himself in public esteem—and good will in many ways. I think his words will be considered as worthy of the utmost consideration, I may say to my friend from Georgia (Mr. Cox).
MR. PATRICK. I think the gentleman is making exactly the kind of speech we ought to have made in the Congress and one that ought to be reflected all over the country. I think it portrays the sound basis upon which America's war effort will grow and develop.
Does not the gentleman feel that the best example we have of that, if we are not deceived, is the approach we are now apparently making in Egypt, where we have, if we can hold it, air superiority, whereas, if we had counted too early or had pulled our fruit before it was ripe, we might have suffered a defeat in combat with Rommel that would have overthrown the opportunity to do what we hope and believe we are doing out there now.
MR. PATMAN. I am not willing to pass on the advisability of any military question involved in this war. However, the gentleman's position appears to be logical and sound to me. I doubt that any man who takes a global trip very hurriedly and quickly, as Mr. Wilkie did, is in position to come back here possessed with sufficient knowledge to tell the military strategists how to run this war.

Probing A Speech
Production Lag

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON.
MR. WILKIE'S main charge was that Russia and China are not getting the aid they were promised, but he did not say why. The answer is not easy to find. It would be logical to assume, from what has been announced, that our production falling short of our goals, that production is responsible.
No precise figures have been allowed to penetrate the censors. Naturally, these are valid military secrets, but it is known that American production, for instance, was 41 per cent behind the goal set for that month on Aug. 1. July was 7 per cent behind its goal.
Unofficial estimates have been made that we may fall 25 per cent short of our 60,000 plane goal on the year, and may make only 45,000 planes by January 1. That deficiency is at least partly attributed to the fact that we switched from high fighter plane production into heavy bombers, which require many times as much time and material.
But the production officials around WPD do not accept the theory that production deficiencies are responsible. They say that in July and August they were running at three and a half times the pre-Pearl Harbor rate of production.
The money is pouring out at the rate of \$5,000,000,000 a month for war goods. They will not take the blame. They say the trouble is shipping. The shipping authorities in the Government say their end is holding up well, at least the construction end. Ship production on the year, they say, will exceed their 8,000,000 ton goal, and month by month, they are ahead of their program.



Second Bataan?

Without Promised Help Our Solomons Forces Are Lost

Some days, we may take cheer from the news of the Solomons fighting. Another Jap force has been turned back, or more Jap ships have been sunk, or more Jap planes have been shot down. But still the enemy keeps coming, and at every attack new troop landings are made. Jap tanks roll on the fields, Jap artillery lays it down on the seas, there is Jap superiority. In some sections, there is Jap air superiority. And still more and larger Jap fleets are reported on the way.
Is our first offensive action in the Pacific, which started so bravely and with such a flourish, to become another disastrous, futile stand, like those gallant days on Bataan and Corregidor?
Soundings of three days by superior Marine Wildcat fighters meet are still confident that they can win the victory. If supplies and reinforcements can be pushed through in time. In that way, the Solomons are already another Bataan.
What the Japs determined to stake everything to wipe out the U. S. foothold in the Solomons, we face a desperate struggle merely to stave off another catastrophe.

Hemmed In
The Press Is Darned If It Do, Darned If It Don't

The free press of the United States, still able to fend for itself and with no apologies to offer for its job of reporting two wars, has long been a target for criticism by politicians, even in peacetime, but usually the attack came from one direction or another. Now the press is completely surrounded.
Most distinguished critic of the industry and its workmen has been President Roosevelt. His caustic diags have increased in number and volume of late, reaching a climax when he returned from his recent tour of the country's defense plants. He included the "typewriter strategists" and "three columnists and commentators" in the groups he considered were working against the best interests of the nation.
In particular, he scolded that newspaper strategists were adding to the general confusion by demanding a second front, which should be solely a military decision.
A few days ago, Communist Secretary Earl Browder made a speech at a big Party rally. Among the sentiments he expressed were these: "What is holding back the realization of the Second Front? Undoubtedly it is the defeatist influence, particularly the newspapers, which have created the impression that the country is not prepared to support an all-out participation in the war demanded by the Second Front.
There, in the middle, are we. Poor old press, never right.

Praise For A Speech
Stolen: FDR's Thunder

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON.
NO DOUBT some of those in the Administration are feeling hurt over Wendell Wilkie's broadcast. It is understandable. The Administration has been in the leadership in his third term. Roosevelt in his first or second term would never have wanted to let Wendell Wilkie deliver the speech that he himself should have made.
Vice-President Wallace made the same speech, in its central idea. Wallace and Wilkie have set the theme of real American policy, which is that the free world must make a new world out of the ruins of this war, that it must be a different one this time, one which will recognize freedom as an aim in Asia as well as in the West, and that America must assume an important part in trying to put the pieces together. Under Secretary Welles spoke to the same effect in his Memorial Day address.
There has been a lack of leadership in this sort of thing on the part of President Roosevelt. True, he has been heavily burdened with day-to-day problems. Yet that is not the nature of the Free World speech of May 8, and of Wilkie's broadcast shows the hunger for leadership in the purposes of history. In his last radio chat, Mr. Roosevelt talked about punishing the Nazi criminals after the war. But that is only the beginning of the postwar job. Wilkie showed in his realistic report on Asia and the Middle East how the good will of our side is leaking away because we are neglected to meet the needs of that part of the world which we intend to do with victory. He has heard their doubts, their cynical views about the Western nations, and everybody else that has been who has been there.
Much of what Wilkie said could better have gone into the President's recent fire-drift. Wood-

Wisin' Around

She With The Ballet Ruse?
Lexington Dispatches
We understand Mrs. J. F. Brannaman accidentally fractured a toe one day last week, and has been quite inconvenienced since.
The Season For Turning New Leaves
Mission Item
Glad News For Press
I'll write often. I think not quite so busy. Now I'll write often, but begin making speeches, have which weather clears up. Fine crop of clover this year.
The Serpent At A Hen Party
A Queen Hen
Travelling Times
Mrs. T. C. Henderson saw a number of her chickens back of her "granama" chicken house gathered in a circle around something and she went to see what was attracting their attention. She found it to be a large rattlesnake in its coil as if prepared to defend itself against the threatened attack from the chickens. She called, and C. Henderson came to the scene and stumped the snake with a small stick. Mrs. Henderson then hopped a small erid around the snake's neck and sent it up to Mr. K. K. Miller, the "snake specialist."
Mass Production
(Milland Item)
Concord Tribune
We have a little chicken news here. Mrs. Glenn Garner has a hen that was hatched on May 2. She began laying the last of August and has been setting on her nest of thirteen eggs every two weeks. We think this is a hard record, but if anyone has anything to head this we would like for you to show yourself by writing to Mrs. Garner.
And Not The Only Troubled Hen
This War
(Milland Item)
Concord Tribune
Mrs. Treva Hunsbrough is having trouble with her head and she's had an abscess.

