

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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

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The daily edition of The Charlotte News was established in 1885. The Evening Chronicle (established 1893) was purchased by and consolidated with The Charlotte News May 1, 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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Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Charlotte, N.C., under the act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By carrier: 20 cents a week; one month, \$7.00. By mail: One month \$7.00; three months, \$20.00; six months, \$35.00; one year, \$70.00.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1942

## Double Talk

Goering and Stalin Speak Of an Allied Second Front

Two big men, one a short stout and one just stout, spoke to the world on the second front. One demanded, one dared. From Moscow, Joseph Stalin, with the right of one who has already paid his dues, called upon his fellow nations for help. It was the strongest call of the war. From Berlin, wallowing with an uncertainty through a report to his people, Herman Goering called second front talk an American bluff.

Sadly enough, we have no adequate answer for either of these gentlemen. One has failed to appreciate the difficulties in our path. After Sevastopol and Stalingrad he hasn't put much stock in difficulties. As for the other, we can only keep our peace and let him wait and see. The two spoke of the most important subject in the world just now, and they were passing speeches just before the curtain went up.

Stalin's words formed no plea. They demanded, upon pain of defeat, that British and American forces give him some active relief, on the ground. He had, plenty enough, given up a policy of gentle but pressing insistence. He spoke out in open meeting. The only possible answers to the question he raised have already been given. They were not enough for Russia, so there must be only Allied silence until the big blow falls.

As for Goering, he might have had his own answer if he had reread his speech. He confessed to a one-front air force, to the coming of more and more bombing raids upon German civilians, to the shortages of coal, iron and food. He placed the Third Reich in rather desperate straits, and urged it to think only of the destruction that would come upon it if the United Nations won. After that sketch of the Nazi situation, second front talk didn't sound much like a bluff.

But the fat man of many medals also spoke of defenses being prepared for a possible blow, and there he was slinging in harmony with Stalin, so far as America is concerned. From German or Russian angle, the need for our immediate action was apparent. We must not allow Hitler to complete elaborate preparations for defense; we must not allow Russia to wait too long, until her strength is gone. If our high commands cannot or will not heed either of these men, the war may stretch on into the long, bloody years.

## A Day Is Set

Action Opens on the Scrap Metal Front

By this time all the potential scrap metal scavengers, having been deluged with publicity for almost a week, must be impatient for the actual scrapping to start. It was hoped that they would be. The scrap-drivers counted upon it.

Soon there will be action. Millions, sir, misses and masters, a day has been set. It is Thursday, October 8th. On that day every household is supposed to adorn the curb alongside the street with its pile of scrap metal, its badge of Americanism, to its speak. That day, Thursday, is "Display Your Junk" Day. Be it noted that this pile of scrap will be uncollected for a few days. That too is a purpose. Not that anybody wants to examine the family heirlooms that every family is wanted to be represented with its contribution.

It is a huge quota that Mecklenburg County has set for itself. To gather 16,500,000 lbs. of scrap metal by Oct. 21 will require the wholehearted participation of all of us, of every person, of every type of establishment, of every worker in the drive. And beginning Thursday, it will be possible to appraise the extent of that participation, and to ascertain if Mecklenburg is still a hornet's nest of patriotism.

## Extra Draft

Army Lures 18 and 19-Year-Olds While Congress Protects Others

The opening of the Army's new drive to enlist volunteers from the 18 and 19-year-old group seems only to have increased the need for Congressional action on the drafting of the youngsters. The fear of Congress or the Administration that taking the youngsters would be an unfortunate move politically may be well

grounded. The nation certainly doesn't like the idea of shipping boys of tender age to war. But time and necessity have come.

While the Army makes its pleas to those who are sufficiently patriotic to listen, the other millions are waiting, protected by the draft laws. That creates a situation which is clearly unfair—and still doesn't accomplish what the Army would like. General Somervell, speaking for the Army, underlined the need for younger men in uniform in insisting that our age groups be as well balanced as those of the enemy. And fighters in this war should be young.

Thus, while the new recruiting program goes on to draft off the volunteers, with parental consent, before Congress acts, the burden begins to fall upon the first of the married men. If Congress still holds back on the grounds that the armed services cannot train or care for more than a certain number, the new Army recruiting drive should be enough to convince them otherwise.

Either the youths should go or they should stay. There should not be long months of the Army pulling one way and Congress, one eye on November, pulling another. That's not even a policy, much less a unified one.

## A Natural

This Judge Would Become The Supreme Court

Once again a vacancy on the Supreme Court projects the name of Judge John J. Parker into consideration. The arguments in favor of Judge Parker's nomination by the President are, even when advanced by those who are his warmest supporters, rather tentative. They are fondness for him, valid and convincing. The appointment of a Republican would be nicely calculated to inspire political unity.

Judge Parker would grace the Supreme Court, his scholarly attainments and his warm human sympathies altogether becoming that august body. He is, clearly, entitled to vindication by the Government for the Senate's shabby treatment of him in 1931.

There is another reason why his nomination ought to be commended to the President. Call the roll of the Supreme Court—Stueck, Black, Reed, Frankfurter, Douglas, Murphy, Jackson—and you will uncover no Justice who ever answered to the official title of "Judge," which is to say no man who went to the court via the bench. Members of the present court all attained eminence as lawyers in private and public practice, or as politicians, or as deans of law faculties in colleges and universities.

As a representative of the judiciary, Judge Parker would add a background to the court which it lacks and ought to have. The senior member of the U. S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals would be a Justice drawn from the Judges, and what, pray, could be more sensible than that?

## War And Cash

You Might Win Both Under Rep. Sabath's Lottery Plan

Representative A. J. Sabath of Illinois (not to be confused with Al Sabath, owner of the thoroughbred Absai, wants to plunge the gambling racketeers into the suggestion of a national lottery in the American magazine, calculated to take the ten billions the United States fritters away on gambling every year and stick 'em in the war chest. He wants to sell dollar tickets of "War Participation" and give half the proceeds directly to the Government.

Winners would be paid in cash and in certificates, negotiable, non-interest bearing and redeemable in twenty years. Offhand, the scheme sounds all right. The Government, Sabath figures, would immediately get \$175,000,000, and cash prizes to the public would total \$125,000,000. But all this, we fear, would not in the least cripple the crooked gambling interests. Dutch Schultz once admitted to drawing \$300,000 daily from his New York numbers racket—and the scale in all the rackets is probably higher these days.

Nonetheless, the lottery in wartime America is not new. Many an emergency has been met with that form of legalized gambling. In this way, the ragged Continentalists fed through the Revolution, Washington was rebuilt in 1812. Harvard, Princeton and William & Mary were built. This new, bigger plan might actually help to clip, a little closer the wings of inflation.



## Good For FDR

# He Needed A Good Look

By Dorothy Thompson

WASHINGTON  
IN ALL the discussion that has raged around the President's trip and whether he should or should not have taken the press in on it, let us not fail to welcome the main fact, namely that the President did get out of Washington, did survey the major war plants of the country, and did get an impression of the country as a whole.

If it were possible to give the whole Washington bureaucracy a two weeks' vacation on condition that they would travel with open eyes and see what is happening in the nation, it would be simply wonderful.

There are advantages and disadvantages in having Washington as a capital. As far as I know there is no other country that has not made one of its major metropolises into its capital. That is Australia, where they have built Canberra off the main stream of Australian life. The idea that one great center should not profit over other cities by the presence of the government, and that the nation should be administered in the purity of a monastery.

But by this fact, contact is lost with real life. Some one has said that Washington is the greatest company town on earth. And that is true—it is a city with just one industry, the industry of government.

Such company towns are known to be arrogant; they are furious against any sort of outside action that might disturb them; sometimes they arrest people who come from outside to criticize, to report, or to organize workers, or otherwise to "intervene." And, at the same time, they are suspected by the rest of the towns.

There is a certain element of this about Washington. If our capital were in New York or Chicago, the one or the other would certainly be isolated, concentrated in Washington it can command the love and respect of residents of all other cities, without being away from everybody; a city whose chief raw material is paper, whose chief products are bureaucrats, and

whose bureaucratic rules and regulations are apparently made without the slightest conception of their effect upon the "outside world" into which they are issued.

A government, placed in the middle of the life of the nation—as in Chicago—is constantly reminded of the facts of life, for the facts of life are going on all around it. In Washington, the facts of life are the government itself. Therefore all the struggles of life occur inside the government.

In a normal city there is a constant interplay of interests, and one meets, day by day, industrialists, artists, officials, teachers, physicians, and all sorts and conditions of men, each of them with radii into different parts of the social body, each of them coming from one sphere into another and passing back into the first again, so that there is a normal social circulation of the blood, and a constant correction and adaptation of one viewpoint to another viewpoint.

In Washington, since there is no normal intercourse, the outside world enters in the form of lobbyists—ambassadors from groups in the nation to the capital; out of this sort of diplomatic competition arises as to who is the ambassador of the strongest power. A shrewd diplomat—with a good expense account—becomes clever in establishing contacts; in learning who can be played off against whom; and eventually the domestic life of the nation becomes about as complicated as foreign policy.

And the leading problem in foreign affairs—how to wage a war of coalition—becomes a domestic problem: how to make a domestic coalition—instead of the real problem: How can we create a united nation for the purpose of waging war?

Now in decentralizing himself for a few days, the President took a step in the right direction. In the Arabian Nights there is the story of Harun Al Rashid, the Caliph who went through the world, encountered many adventures, came back, and knew how to govern—having cut himself off for long periods from the life of his own country.

I suspect that something of the sort impelled the President to be as inconspicuous as possible.

## The Roosevelt Trip

# "Straight News" And Politics

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON  
I NEVER get close enough to Mr. Roosevelt to see how much he is laughing when he makes his blundering criticism of "the communists and communists" and the press.

He always uses this old line before election. At least he used it two years ago, when he used the defense plant inspection trip then. It is a familiar Rooseveltian technique, amusing, easily explained, and probably generally understood by now.

The President always says he favors "straight news," meaning his own, the news he gives out to his bureau, critics of "the communists and communists" and the press.

But the kind of news that gets things done in Washington, that spurs administration to new efforts, and the incentive shure to correction of their errors, or firing, happens to be the kind that Mr. Roosevelt says he does not like. It is good for his Administration and for the prosecution of the war, but he does not like it.

No one expected him to like it. Nobody likes it, not both he and everyone else knows it must be done. He does not propose to abolish it, as far as I have heard. He merely mentioned again, before election, his old idea—and I assume for the same old purpose. If he can create the impression that all criticism of his Administration is erroneous, the people will believe only the straight news—what his handout bureau grind out.

moment, criticism would not cease. The only way Mr. Roosevelt can stop criticism is to make the war effort 100 per cent efficient, instead of 94 or 95 per cent, as he says. If we would start winning the war, much or all of it would die away.

I think the truth is the President knows he has the press over a barrel, and he likes to paddle it every now and then. With one hand he feeds out official news—sparingly and under the call who went through the world, encountered many adventures, came back, and knew how to govern—having cut himself off for long periods from the life of his own country.

I will bet it gives him endless hours of amusement. All the censored and chastised press can do is to cheer. That is, in an official presentation to the White House about the secrecy of the trip.

His protest will be filed away by the White House, thereby setting a precedent for the press. It can file away the President's criticism, continue to support him and his war efforts as it so ardently has been doing.

Ho hum! This is where I came in about twelve years ago. Plenty of reasons can be found for Mr. Roosevelt's defense inspection tour. Two days before it was concluded, War Producer Nelson gave out some figures on August production, which he said were "not worth bragging about." He showed the goals fixed by the President were not being met. Around Nelson's office, everyone knows, for instance, we will meet the 60,000 plane figure this year, although we may come close. In fact, some WPB men now talk of Mr. Roosevelt's goal as a "dream program."

WASHINGTON  
MAYBE one way to get rid of some of this confusion that emanates from Washington would be to tell more hard facts.

For instance Admiral Land, chairman of the Maritime Commission, has some facts to tell. In September, 43 ships were delivered—more than three a day. They added up to 1,009,800 deadweight tons. The number of ships built last month approached the total production for all of last year. In August 48 ships were built. In July, 71 were delivered.

That's the way it is going. It looks as if the country will build the 5,000,000 tons of shipping that President Roosevelt asked for this year. If enough steel can be provided, Admiral Land is convinced we can double that next year and deliver the 10,000,000 tons of ships asked for by the President. Yards and ways sufficient to do that are now in operation.

Winning this war depends so much on ocean transportation that this progress in building ships is one of the most encouraging signs of the whole war program. We are sufficiently advanced in other parts of the program to keep ahead of ship capacity. Opening of the second front, the stepping up of operations wherever the high command may decide to do so, will depend on ships. Success of the shipbuilding program is the best guarantee that our full force will in time be felt against the enemy.

President Roosevelt would have even less reason for ill-tempered outbursts about the press if reports as good as the shipbuilding figures could be given out frequently.

When an Assistant Secretary of the Navy makes a speech saying we are losing the war, it is printed. When the Army chief of supply makes a rough speech, it is printed. When Donald Nelson says we fell fourteen per cent below August expectations in war production, that is printed.

When columnists and commentators talk to officials, all of whom say the rubber shortage requires nation-wide restriction of automobile driving, they write about that and urge that it be done. They urge that the confusion and delay in the rubber program be corrected.

When responsible officials say that war factories are in danger of slowing down for lack of materials, columnists and commentators call attention to that. Donald Nelson calls in the newspapers of the country and asks their help in collecting scrap metal so that steel production will not be curtailed. The press does what it can to call attention to that. When there was hesitation about converting the automobile industry to war work, columnists and commentators called attention to that and to the danger of "continuing to chew up precious materials in manufacture of automobiles."

At times that sort of thing may seem like nagging. Congress feels that the press has nagged it because there has been so much comment supporting President Roosevelt in his attempt to control inflation. But you haven't seen any press nagging of the job the Maritime Commission is doing. It is getting out the news.

Newspapers, if I know anything about them, are ready to cheer whenever they get a chance. Not so long ago, in fact, the newspapers were being criticized for overplaying optimistic news.

So it goes in a democracy which is, as J. B. Priestly once said, like a noisy family.

## Side Glances



"All we can hope is that some day Hitler will have to pay for these long, lonesome evenings!"

## Platform Of The People

# Rubber At Home

Editors, The News:

I was gratified to note in your editorial of September 17, you placed emphasis on the need for rubber, not only for our soldiers, sailors and merchant marine but also for the fighters at home.

Naturally the first concern of our committee was to point the way for a sufficient production of rubber, yet we were alive to the fact that if production is not to lag, we must have rubber tires to carry our war workers and farmers to their daily tasks.

Now that Mr. Jeffers has been appointed by our President as Rubber Administrator, I am quite sure that he will drive forward relentlessly to overcome all the obstacles in our path. Thank you for your helpful editorial. Sincerely, BERNARD M. BARUCH.

507 Madison Avenue, New York City.

## Visitin' Around

Irene Anonymous of Shelby (Hill Springs Item, Marshall News-Record)

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hill had as their guests Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Waddell Jr. and family, Mr. and Mrs. James Hill and Mr. Sherment Hill, of Fort Bragg, and Miss Irene of Shelby, N. C.

Good for Man and Beast (David Record)

J. B. Owens, who lives down in the classic shades of Fulton, was in town one day last week and paid for a treatment of Record.

Two, Two, Three, Four, GO!

420 Years Ago Item, Lexington Dispatch

Myers rendered a happy affair. Four preachers blink and lead a chorus of chicken and country ham, and "Uncle Bard" Sink leads the singing.

## The Lower Level

The New Yorker  
Baby Ruth—It and Only Candy Served the Dionne "Quints" "With Peanuts... Delicieux!" "Macquignie!" Emile "And Crime Centre"—Yvonne "Oh, Choulet, Couvert"—Gelle "Nice and chewy"—Annette "I'm a good girl, I'm a good girl, more like you, O ye of little faith"—Matt. 6:30.

## Bible Thought