

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS



Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday By The News Publishing Company, Inc. W. C. Dowd Jr., President. J. E. Dowd, Vice-President and General Manager. W. C. Dowd, 1885-1927

The daily edition of The Charlotte News was established in 1858. The Evening Chronicle (established 1893) 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.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS AND WIDE WORLD The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited to this paper, and also the local news published herein. 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, 87 cents; By mail: One month 87 cents; three months, \$2.60; six months, \$5.20; one year, \$10.40.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1942

Now For Italy

Kernan's Target More Exposed After Conquest of Rommel

The most exciting possibility arising from the defeat of Rommel in Egypt is that of an offensive worthy of the name, the belated motion of Allied power into the real theater of war's operations. In every country, both Allied and Axis, is the hope or fear that this wave of power across the desert will not recede until it has been augmented and sweeps on into Europe and overwhelms the extended German armies. The target of attack, if Rommel is knocked cold in Egypt, will be near at hand, inviting invasion.

Across the narrows of the Mediterranean lies the Italian boot, exposed and now beyond much help from Hitler. By seizing the advantage of the moment, and quickly pressing their gains, British and American forces might force entrance to the conquered realms there at relatively light cost. Sea power and air power and the man power available might guarantee the success of the invasion.

For such a day the Army's Lieutenant Colonel W. F. Kernan has been waiting without patience. Last Winter in his book, "Defense Will Not Win The War," strategist Kernan urged the invasion of Italy in Spring, 1942. He outlined the advantage thus:

"Every element of victory points to Italy as the objective of the coming American offensive. . . . The peninsula lies in the strategic center of that world island which Hitler aspires to dominate. Without Italy, every hope of Nazi victory in Africa goes glimmering. German influence over Spain and Vichy France is weakened. The Balkan conquest is endangered. The chain linking London to Greece, with Berlin in the hands of the enemy, Turkey will surely come unstruck and join the Allies, and the Dardanelles, best door to Berlin, will be thrown wide open. Italy is the solar-plexus of the Axis, as Germany is its spearhead and Japan its nuclear bomb."

Time has not altered the soundness of the Kernan strategy. While Rommel flies, and if he continues to fly, Allied momentum (supported by gathering strength in surrounding areas) might well carry on into Italy. Immediately. The advantages of striking there now are inviting. While all its confusion in the German-Italian camp, invasion would have a greater chance of success. And the coming of British and American forces would create only slightly less enthusiasm among the people of Mussolini's empire than among the French, the Dutch, the Belgians, the Poles, the Norwegians, the Yugoslavs and the Greeks.

Lay-Away Plan

This City Needs (1) Cash And (2) A Commission

Along with the good news of a decrease of \$54,000 in the City of Charlotte's debt service requirements for next year comes the bad news of a probable offset of \$80,000, due to uncollectible street assessments which now become chargeable against the little taxpayers. But let not the little taxpayers weep too bitterly; the tax rate of \$1.38 is moderate as it stands; the City's bonded indebtedness is gradually being paid off; and the Currie Administration has made a start at the much-needed job of going after delinquent street assessments.

For a city of this size and aggressiveness, a tax rate of \$2.09 or so would not be out of line. Heaven forbid that any Council should elevate the rate for the fun of seeing the taxpayer squirm; at the same time, the point is that the rate is low now and getting lower all the time. It suggests a radical yet altogether conservative innovation. It would be shortsighted, we believe, not to take advantage of this opportunity to go on a basis of paying for capital improvements out of current revenue. Hitherto the City has always issued bonds for its undertakings, and the pursuance of that policy over the years brought us to the point where a considerable tax had to be levied each year to pay principal and interest upon capital expenditures in prior years. Now, with a bill in prospect and with a tax rate that is altogether unduly high as it stands, the City should be free to dispense with the issuing of bonds and pay as it goes. An essential preliminary, however, is to determine, first, what capital im-

determine them in a comprehensive manner, rather than on the spur of the moment, so that they may be undertaken in the order of their desirability and feasibility.

What the City needs most awfully, in short, is a long-range program of public works and improvements, and it would be far more sensible, as well as economical, to assign the formulation of this program to some continuing (and non-political) City Planning Commission than to leave it to the City Councils which are forever changing and are not, by their nature and by the pressure of routine business, particularly suited to the part of city architects.

Wrong Medicine

The Government, Not Mobs, Has Jurisdiction Here

Nobody is going to catch us arguing that the members of the sect of Jehovah's Witnesses are entitled to any special consideration in wartime. They are acquired for themselves, under freedom of dispensation, a set of creeds and notions which in time of peace they might be indulged in to their hearts' content. But in time of war, their doctrine and their practices collide with the national security, and they have no standing. Even so, little is to be gained by manhandling their representatives.

The Government is prepared to deal with them, as that may become necessary, through courts of law. Such of their literature and utterances as may be seditious will be suppressed. Draft-dodgers among them will be jailed. Any interference with military activities would be punished severely. But all, mind you, by orderly and discriminating judicial processes, not by street fighting or mobs.

There have been two instances recently where Witnesses were set upon and beaten, one in Kannapolis and one on Thursday night in Charlotte. Thereby nothing—as has nothing—for the national security of the country was accomplished, for these practitioners thrive upon martyrdom. Moreover, any attempt by individuals in time of war to take the law into their own hands is, on its face, an offense against the Government, and is itself not to be tolerated.

Well In Hand

Local Lunch Prices Not Soaring as OPA's Johnson Charged

If the restaurants of North Carolina are jacking up their prices on such victory vittles as they're able to obtain these days, there's no evidence of it in Charlotte. Theodore S. Johnson of OPA charges that prices in some places have advanced 100 per cent, far out of line with other price increases. He suggested no investigation, but singled out the meal-serving industry to a public allegedly up in arms.

We talked with a Charlotte restaurateur about the Johnson statement, and he gave his business a stout defense. Distorted prices in Charlotte eating places, he said, just isn't there. There have been advances, many of them recently, but they have been forced upon restaurants and caterers by a flood of difficulties and rising costs, and are still in the low percentage class.

Many an item held by food dispensers is not held down under a rising price. Eggs, milk and butter can rise with the market, and that means that a downtown breakfast egg may jump from a nickel to eight cents, or from a dime to fifteen cents on the plate. Further, products which are processed are not subjected as to price—but non-processed foods like milk and cereal will always be controlled. Our informer reported for his competitors as well as himself when he said that nowhere in the Charlotte area are retail food costs rising excessively. Excessive prices, instead, have been cheerfully accepted by customers who said they didn't see how they'd been sold so cheaply in prior years. Excessive labor is so hard to have and food and beverage restaurants are being hit by a higher and higher cost of staple commodities, the picture is changing, week by week. But the industry, locally at least, has in mind no runaway prices. Not for a long time.

When the Frost Is on the Punkin

—By Herblock



What Hit 'Em?

Democrats Still Dazed

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON The Democratic Congressmen were slightly dazed in their first comment on the election result. All they could mutter, as the final returns came in, was: "It looks like someone kicked us in the teeth."

One ousted member attributed his defeat solely to the 18-19 year old draft. Another says he crawled through by promising eight gallons of gas on each ration coupon. More typical of the general run, however, was the defeated Missouri member from a farm district, who was a sure fifteen to one shot to win before the votes were counted. He did not know what happened to him.

The successful Republican candidates generally said in their public statements that their support was a popular demand to get on better and faster with the war effort. I believe the explanation runs deeper than that. My mail furnished an advance warning of what was coming, and the reasons for it. There is a popular revolt in this country against methods that have been followed.

It is a revolution not only against war methods, but reform methods. It is an expression of feeling that pervades, not only the small business men and the conservative element, those who, together, might be called the Wilkie vote of the last election, the anti-New Deal vote of 1940.

This one goes further—down into the middle class groups everywhere, and has spread widely into the ranks of farmer and worker.

These people are not "turning conservative," as the radicals say. They do not want to abandon the gains that have been made in social progress, but they have reached the point where they want these gains made practical.

They want this reform settled down to a workable basis which will consolidate and perpetuate the gains, rather than have them blown up further and further into ever new heights. They just want some common sense about it. They do not want radical methods.

Every man in this country, furthermore, has been hit hard by this war in many ways, but Washington does not recognize it. Some have lost their businesses. All remaining businesses have lost their help and are struggling to keep going. Most of their businesses have many people who are unemployed.

All individuals at home are suffering sacrifices of their friends and relatives to the service, but, on top of that, they are sacrificing themselves in many ways.

Republican membership in the House and Senate is going up to the point where, with the aid of a few Democrats, it can swing a vote. That power, in the hands of obstructionists who only aim to put Roosevelt in a hole, would be dangerous.

One Republican leader, just before election, warned his constituents against accepting the recent Government decision to shift gold miners to copper mines. He said unless such arbitrary power was curbed, the Administration would enslave and oppress workers regardless of their constitutional rights just as Hitler does. That kind of authoritarian talk of course is not the policy by the Republicans in Congress could cause so much interference in the war effort, as the present conduct of the war. There are many other ways to make political capital out of the hardships that have to be imposed for the war, we are in for.

Public discontent with the Administration has been voiced by electing Republicans. If that is accepted by the Republicans as a license to their members, often in confidential discussions, could

in changed modes of living, food, work, transportation, hours.

I have heard no one begrudge these sacrifices, but their plaint and plea is for better administration over them. They want kindly direction, not arbitrary and unexplained admonitions. They must line up every few weeks in a different rationing for this and that, haggle and scrape for gas, sugar, coffee, meat. They see themselves that administration is not efficient in the way it is handling them. They want better methods in this respect also.

They will get them, are getting them. As one wise Democratic leader said when he saw the returns, "Now we have someone looking over our shoulder."

The election result, therefore, cannot be anything but constructive in the war effort.

Democratic Congressmen who survived are going to the White House for some changes in methods of handling them also. They are saying, "Now we have someone looking over our shoulder. They have their ears closer to the ground than Leon Henderson, Ben Cohen, Frankfurter, Hopkins. Two or three good Roosevelt friends are saying this out loud in the corridors."

They think also Mr. Roosevelt's advisers represent a wholly union labor or extreme liberal viewpoint, to the exclusion of the interests of other factions. Some Southern Democrats call his administration "Communist" although they know it is not intended to be.

They, too, will get their wish. "Reform" types of legislation will never get through the House now. Disorganizing Democrats will give the Republicans a majority against all that. The President will have to commit Congress before making his recommendations, unless he wants them defeated.

Prime example of the changing times was the defeat of Senator Norris by an anti-New Dealer in a state which had been New Dealer before Mr. Roosevelt. The 61-year-old Senator got into the race in an indirect way. One day news men, looking for a story, dropped into his office to ask if he would run. He said frankly he was too old, could not keep up the work.

Later, he was drafted. His fees dropped to the interview throughout the state. It helped take away all hope of sincerity which had been his most popular appeal. His campaign consisted only of such large speeches by radio.

In truth, he probably ran for the benefit of his office staff as much as anything else. His employees have been with him many years.

The statements of Republican leaders like Dewey, Hoover and Wilkie clarify the purposes of the Republican Party. They are dedicating its new opportunity. If their advice is followed, the effects can only be helpful toward improving the conditions in this area of the country.

The kind of work that Republicans in Congress can do has been begun by the Truman and Tolson committees. They have been non-political in their purpose. Through the work of members of both parties they have directed attention to weaknesses in the war organization and have made countless constructive suggestions, some public, some confidential.

Unquestionably most of the work of running the war and most of the policies in connection with it have to be originated and developed by the executive branch. Congress is not equipped to deal with such a problem, for instance, as organizing the flow of short materials, as in the new controlled materials plan.

Relief In Sight

—By Dick Young

Recreation Fund

CHARLOTTE'S recreation program, which has always been called about like a red-headed stepchild, may come into its own as the result of the new re-arming program. That has been set up by the Federal Government to advance the war effort through guarantee of the health, safety and welfare of the people.

CHARLOTTE'S recreation program, which has always been called about like a red-headed stepchild, may come into its own as the result of the new re-arming program. That has been set up by the Federal Government to advance the war effort through guarantee of the health, safety and welfare of the people.

CHARLOTTE'S recreation program, which has always been called about like a red-headed stepchild, may come into its own as the result of the new re-arming program. That has been set up by the Federal Government to advance the war effort through guarantee of the health, safety and welfare of the people.

Platform Of The People

Help For The Army

Editors, The News: I have heard no one begrudge these sacrifices, but their plaint and plea is for better administration over them. They want kindly direction, not arbitrary and unexplained admonitions. They must line up every few weeks in a different rationing for this and that, haggle and scrape for gas, sugar, coffee, meat. They see themselves that administration is not efficient in the way it is handling them. They want better methods in this respect also.

Editors, The News: I have heard no one begrudge these sacrifices, but their plaint and plea is for better administration over them. They want kindly direction, not arbitrary and unexplained admonitions. They must line up every few weeks in a different rationing for this and that, haggle and scrape for gas, sugar, coffee, meat. They see themselves that administration is not efficient in the way it is handling them. They want better methods in this respect also.

Editors, The News: I have heard no one begrudge these sacrifices, but their plaint and plea is for better administration over them. They want kindly direction, not arbitrary and unexplained admonitions. They must line up every few weeks in a different rationing for this and that, haggle and scrape for gas, sugar, coffee, meat. They see themselves that administration is not efficient in the way it is handling them. They want better methods in this respect also.

Editors, The News: I have heard no one begrudge these sacrifices, but their plaint and plea is for better administration over them. They want kindly direction, not arbitrary and unexplained admonitions. They must line up every few weeks in a different rationing for this and that, haggle and scrape for gas, sugar, coffee, meat. They see themselves that administration is not efficient in the way it is handling them. They want better methods in this respect also.

Editors, The News: I have heard no one begrudge these sacrifices, but their plaint and plea is for better administration over them. They want kindly direction, not arbitrary and unexplained admonitions. They must line up every few weeks in a different rationing for this and that, haggle and scrape for gas, sugar, coffee, meat. They see themselves that administration is not efficient in the way it is handling them. They want better methods in this respect also.

Editors, The News: I have heard no one begrudge these sacrifices, but their plaint and plea is for better administration over them. They want kindly direction, not arbitrary and unexplained admonitions. They must line up every few weeks in a different rationing for this and that, haggle and scrape for gas, sugar, coffee, meat. They see themselves that administration is not efficient in the way it is handling them. They want better methods in this respect also.

Editors, The News: I have heard no one begrudge these sacrifices, but their plaint and plea is for better administration over them. They want kindly direction, not arbitrary and unexplained admonitions. They must line up every few weeks in a different rationing for this and that, haggle and scrape for gas, sugar, coffee, meat. They see themselves that administration is not efficient in the way it is handling them. They want better methods in this respect also.

Editors, The News: I have heard no one begrudge these sacrifices, but their plaint and plea is for better administration over them. They want kindly direction, not arbitrary and unexplained admonitions. They must line up every few weeks in a different rationing for this and that, haggle and scrape for gas, sugar, coffee, meat. They see themselves that administration is not efficient in the way it is handling them. They want better methods in this respect also.

Editors, The News: I have heard no one begrudge these sacrifices, but their plaint and plea is for better administration over them. They want kindly direction, not arbitrary and unexplained admonitions. They must line up every few weeks in a different rationing for this and that, haggle and scrape for gas, sugar, coffee, meat. They see themselves that administration is not efficient in the way it is handling them. They want better methods in this respect also.

Editors, The News: I have heard no one begrudge these sacrifices, but their plaint and plea is for better administration over them. They want kindly direction, not arbitrary and unexplained admonitions. They must line up every few weeks in a different rationing for this and that, haggle and scrape for gas, sugar, coffee, meat. They see themselves that administration is not efficient in the way it is handling them. They want better methods in this respect also.

Editors, The News: I have heard no one begrudge these sacrifices, but their plaint and plea is for better administration over them. They want kindly direction, not arbitrary and unexplained admonitions. They must line up every few weeks in a different rationing for this and that, haggle and scrape for gas, sugar, coffee, meat. They see themselves that administration is not efficient in the way it is handling them. They want better methods in this respect also.

Editors, The News: I have heard no one begrudge these sacrifices, but their plaint and plea is for better administration over them. They want kindly direction, not arbitrary and unexplained admonitions. They must line up every few weeks in a different rationing for this and that, haggle and scrape for gas, sugar, coffee, meat. They see themselves that administration is not efficient in the way it is handling them. They want better methods in this respect also.

Visidin' Round

The North Wind blew from the Hope item. Monroe Journal. Mr. Luther Avench almost has his new house finished. Sad Parson. Delwood Items. Waynesville Mountaineer. Gilson Parton lost a fine horse recently. The animal took sick and died soon afterwards.

Bible Thought

Forgive as often as you would like to be forgiven if you were the offender; and not the one offended: Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall I forgive him? Till seven times? Matt. 18:21.



These shell-rimmed glasses are only camouflage! She pretends to be intellectual, but I notice every time she goes to the library she maneuvers to walk