

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 1942

Manifesto

Wherein We Sacrifice an Adjective for the Duration

The editors of THE NEWS went into executive session this morning and declared themselves as follows:
Whereas, the adjective "defense" has outlived its usefulness and no longer accurately describes those activities primarily connected with the nation's waging of war against its enemies; and
Whereas, the word contributes subtly but certainly to the dangerous state of mind which holds that we can win the war merely by defending ourselves; and
Whereas, it is high time that somebody started a movement to break this unfortunate word habit;
Now, therefore, we, the editors of THE NEWS, do publicly denounce the adjective "defense" when used in a military sense as a fifth columnist and a traitor and do hereby strike it from our lexicon for the duration.

Better Late...

On Action or Inaction Now A City's Future Depends

It's a little late in the day for such a proposal as originated yesterday, in a meeting called by the Chamber of Commerce, to send to Washington an accredited representative of the City Government for the purpose of stressing on or more war industries to Charlotte. But better late than never. And better something than nothing.
Charlotte, as even the most casual study would show, is particularly vulnerable to the dislocation and the disruption which the war effort is bringing about. It is the concentration of many articles which are no longer distributed. The effects of this dislocation are already noticeable in one form or another. They will get a great deal worse before we are through with this thing, and unless we face these things, what we are and are attempting to meet them with our every resource, we shall have lost ground not only for the war but probably for the reconstruction as well.

War-manufacturing enterprises, large and small, are being established all over the industrial states. Oklahoma, Ohio or Southern cities, however, notably Atlanta, have been fortunate or forehanded enough to be selected as sites for plants and war undertakings which will give their inhabitants employment and cushion the shock of war upon their economy.

The allocation of plants has already reached the tapering-off stage, and nobody need look for any miracles to result simply from sending a man to Washington. But at least the effort is worth the cost, and in former Mayor Douglass' city is fortunate in having a possible success that he has a flair for promotion of this very kind.

No political considerations or special interests or legal technicalities should be allowed to interfere with the prompt ratification of the agreement which originated in the Chamber of Commerce's meeting yesterday, and Mr. Douglas should be impressed into service whether he is receptive to it or not. Take it from us—we are determining now in some degree this city shall make out during the war, and it shall be its own commerce after the war. It is time for the people to assert themselves and demand an action that should have been taken months ago.

Desuetude

That Is the Keynote of the Iron Duke Administration

Ten months ago Charlotte voters arose in righteous indignation against "desuetude police." Organizing the "Citizens Group" for the election of the "men" to run the City Government, the victorious candidates, seven of whom later became known as the Iron Dukes, had made no campaign promises. They had no specific plan for civic betterment, and they presented that they had. In essence, they merely offered to be an alternative to "politics." And the voters, who had grown weary of political shenanigans, voted against the machine. They voted for the Citizens Group.
They held out only a faint hope for the months that have followed, and now are ten by now, a substantial dis-

appointment has set in. The Iron Dukes have done nothing wrong, we hasten to say. It is simply that they have done nothing much.

That course is not quite accurate. The Iron Duke administration has done a few things. Offhand we think of (1) modification of the Blue Laws, (2) passage of the ordinance requiring dime tax operators to carry more liability insurance, (3) the firing of Jim Armstrong as City Manager and the hiring (belatedly) of Mr. Flack, (4) the firing of Smoke Abatement Engineer E. F. Monroe and the hiring (belatedly) of T. F. Maguire in his place; (5) the threat to fire Otway C. Fogus, Superintendent of the City Equipment Bureau. City finances the new administration found in rather good shape and apparently has kept them that way. On the other side, even a tentative list of what the Iron Duke administration has failed to do would reach from here to Sunday. If any single phrase describes their tenure of office, it is innocuous desuetude. Like many another reform administration, the reformers have been in government in government. It appears that several of them had just as soon call it quits and step down. And if their remaining months in office are as singularly unprogressive as the ones just past, the voters are likely to concur.

Men, Not Money

The Red Badge of Courage Needs No Bonus System

One of our correspondents, a fellow who has made many good suggestions in the past, comes forward with a scheme for rewarding North Carolina soldiers and sailors for their deeds. As he puts it, "let every North Carolina boy who is credited with the sinking of an enemy submarine, say, be given an award of \$500." There would be, we take it, comparable bonuses for bringing down the enemy's planes and sinking his ships, and so on.

The suggestion is not entirely new. In some other parts of the country funds for such a purpose have actually been started. We have never cottoned to it but until today had never analyzed the objection. Now we think we know why it leaves us cold.

Among civilians in this country there is a good bit of the attitude of speculation at some football game in which the rivalry is furious. And in the nation as a whole, including the Administration in Washington, there is a manifest disposition to rely on the twin miracles, typically American, of money and productive capacity to win this war for us. It is our forces meet with reverses in the field, we get our teeth and pass another multi-billion-dollar appropriation bill.

Well, maybe there isn't anything much that civilians can do except to cheer their boys and buy bonds and bear up stoically under war-time deprivations. Productive capacity certainly is going to have a lot to do with winning this war, and it is money, appropriations that makes the mare go. Still, we don't like the idea of bonuses for the boys on Bataan or anywhere else.

They're doing all they can, God help them, as it is. And the stakes for which they are playing are not cash but their lives—their and the lives of the nation. It isn't in all the money, appropriations, money or productive capacity to win this war unless those advantages are implemented by mass manpower in the field and behind the lines.

In line, without wanting to disparage our correspondent's proposal, this war isn't going to be won by appropriations or bonds. It's going to have to be won by spilling our blood, American blood, over half the area of the earth. It's time to reach for our knapsacks, not our pocket books.

After the horse-and-buggy phase has passed, it will be fun starting all over again on the automobile age, beginning with the Ford jukes.

To square itself after all this, science the wonderful will have to think up a bomb or heavy gun that will rebuild a town in an hour.

In England, a veteran of the other war coughed up a bullet that struck him 26 years ago. His surprised chin had no idea he was loaded.

Untapped Resources

By Dorothy Thompson

IN Washington one hears complaints that the people are not awake, that they do not realize the war. The feeling of the people is that there is really nothing more that they can do about this war, unless they run, Washington and get a job in an agency, and then moving about this country and talking with large numbers of people like our groups have found one thing: frustration. The people are aware of a great many things that need to be done. They are aware of the things that might upset the Administration machinery. Somehow they must fit their own ideas into the State mechanism or use the mechanism if it is impossible to organize over and above all organize a machine, American people who have an entirely different kind of organized action, we have the State conducting a war with the people as outsiders.

EXPERTS HAVE NOT BEEN CONSULTED

The State has set up numerous instruments for the dissemination of information to the public, which is to keep the people as accurately informed as is commensurate with military safety and through the spoken and written word to build a creative movement.

WRITERS WANT TO HELP WAR EFFORT

But no agency has ever dreamed of doing this. Instead they create bureaucratic machinery which are not in accordance with the mass of the people, and the press—in the largest sense of the word—is treated on the whole as though it were a public nuisance; something that has to be put up with simply because we are free country. As a matter of fact, most of the writers, lecturers and radio commentators of this country—the people who already, without the Government, are reaching millions daily, weekly, monthly.

End Of Empire

By Paul Mallon

THE END OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE theory of government is being seen by some political x-rays in the light of the present-day replacements.

It is not only the British Empire that is too Socialist even for the Labor Party, but the whole of the world, including the Archdiocese of Canterbury, have varying tinges of liberalism and democratic extension as opposed to the old school-like caste system.

It may be that the old Victorian theory of empire is now breaking out. That process had started before the war. Churchill rightly calls it now the British Commonwealth of Nations.

INFORMATION BASED ON POLITICAL NECESSITY

The story is going around that Churchill got the idea for his resignation but it is strongly doubted by local students of British politics. It seemed to the critics that the decision was solely on British political necessity. The Bishop of York is usually chosen for this religious post, and it was just before that time the Bishop of York was more liberal than the retired Archbishop. The cleric's former new Government officials also seems to have been dictated by a desire to get the Bishop of York into a political position, rather than by an overall alteration of empire direction.

On the European Front

—By Herblock



Letters to the Editors:

Worker Likes 40-Hour Law

Editors, The News:

I am a textile worker and I am writing this to you to let you know that I don't believe they should change the 40-hour week bill. I know we should all work longer hours week as long as we need to. But to change that bill would be a big blow to us in the textile industry. For we don't make so much now and what we get as time and a half over 40 hours a week would be a lot. It costs a good deal to live now.

And I am sure all of us in the textile industry would like to buy defense bonds and stamps to help our country win the war.

As for asking the people in defense industries to work longer hours, I think as long as they get paid for it and can stand it at all, they should be glad to help our country. But I don't believe they should change the 40-hour law at all. You don't hear one of the textile mill owners fussing about paying us time and a half for overtime above 40 hours a week. So let's all get together behind our great President who I believe is for the poor man as well as for the rich. Let the rich man and the poor man get together right now behind a man who has a great load on his shoulders, one who is not crying about working, but a man who is giving us a great chance to get together to win this war. But a man who also doesn't want to break up a good law.

So to work all of you in the defense industry and work as long as you can before it is too late. For the 40-hour law is too good law for us now as any other time, so let's keep it.

—WILSON KNOWLES, Granite Falls.

Sees Bright Side Of Insane Hospital

Editors, The News: Will you give me space in your valuable paper for a word or two about the hospital at Morganton, N. C. I have been in the hospital for some time and I am very glad to be here. The staff is very good and the patients are very well cared for.

Why is it? Legalized liquor is doubling our youth. Seventy per cent of automobile accidents are due to drunkenness and lewd women. Our hospitals, asylums, and penitentiaries are overflowing. Some people here so violent they kill. Tom Jimison never had a drink. The young woman in Charlotte made a picture of me in my new clothes or have a good wearing in their rooms for fear of hurting themselves. We should like to see a picture of one of the well patients' room. There are two sides to every question always. So give us the bright side as well as the dark.

So much criticism has been written about the care, accommodations, conditions, etc., of the institution. What what accommodations we get, they do might well be better the budget as they do. They may have to cut down before the year is out. The United States is at war, cruel, unrelenting war, a long-lasting war that will take every cent we can spare before it is over. Now, a word about doctors and nurses. Right now we are short of both, but hope to have an additional 100,000 in the next few months. They are kind, pleasant, and are kept busy all the time ministering to their wants and comfort. Most of them are high school graduates and are making sacrifices to help carry on this noble work for which their people should be very grateful and appreciative. The doctors are kind, attentive, courteous and interested in their patients. Since Dr. Watkins assumed the superintendency of the institution the inmates have enjoyed more attention than ever before. A well-equipped library has been opened, containing daily papers, magazines, helpful magazines, and books of fiction, history, biography, etc. We have radios, reading lamps on good stands. The church ladies from over town are allowed to visit our wards, give parties, take patients to rides, etc. We have a moving picture show every Wednesday night and on Sunday afternoon, services at Chapel by different denominations. So the place is not so hot as it is. As a Presbyterian minister quoted it, "we are a part of Morganton."

Consumer Condemns Buttermilk Ordinance

Editors, The News: In the published reports of the milk situation in Charlotte there has been mention of a proposed ordinance that would require all milk to be pasteurized.

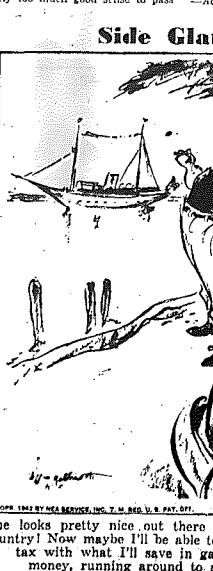
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Side Glances



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TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

We must take the whole program God has for us, not select bits and pieces that suit us. For I have not shunned to declare unto you the whole counsel of God. —Acts 20:27.

Representative Woodrum of Virginia replied that though it was sinking a "little bit" down the ladder to make such a criticism on the floor of the House of Representatives. Just a few days ago Representative Rich, a Pennsylvania Republican, was in the House debate that took place when the country gets heated up toward election time.

You can't have a political campaign without some occasional heated remarks that overstep the line of normal restraint. But the campaign has until November to go and if these are simple words to look talking that is coming, God help us when the country gets heated up toward election time.

Visitin' Around

Come On, Brothers! Naples Make News (Kings Creek Item, Lenoir News-Topic)
There was a car wreck at the King Creek bridge Sunday afternoon. The driver was a new car and was completely demolished. A wrecker was called and the car was taken in.

Loose Talk And Gossip

By Raymond Clapper

IN his radio address, President Roosevelt said that discretion must be used by both the Government and its critics.

Two of his Cabinet officers, Secretary Knox and Secretary Stimson, immediately demonstrated the wisdom of his remark by reverse example. Both promptly uttered glaring and conflicting statements concerning the raid alarm at Los Angeles the other day. Secretary Stimson said that it was a false alarm. Secretary Knox said that it was a genuine commercial plane which fifth-columnists had taken up. That brought a groan from the Civil Aeronautics Authority, which said such a stunt was impossible.

Some in the Government say these conflicting utterances by the two Cabinet officers did as much damage to public confidence as if we had lost a battle. There was no need for them, Stimson and Knox could have withheld comment until they knew the facts, or if they were going to take a flyer and guess, they might at least have co-ordinated their guessing so they could stand together on the same story.

Such incidents destroy the public's trust in the high official way. Stimson and Knox could have said that they were going to take a flyer and guess, they might at least have co-ordinated their guessing so they could stand together on the same story.

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Indiscreet, inaccurate and sometimes "malicious talk is harmful enough when it comes from the averages. It is more when it comes from officials and Senators and Representatives whose words are naturally accepted by the public as being reliable and well-informed.

In his radio address President Roosevelt voiced his contempt for persons who go around whispering or reporting "off the record" news, or the wisdom of Pearl Harbor. He mentioned that in these off-the-record discussions it is stily suggested that the Government has withheld the truth about casualties and that instead of 2340 killed, the real number was eleven or twelve thousand men.

INSTANCES OF GOSSIPING REPORTED IN CAPITAL

Reports have come in to Government officials of exactly that type of off-the-record talk by various members of their public men. The Government received one such report of an off-the-record discussion by Senator Wheeler in Milwaukee recently. That report, which was an accurate account or not, was that during preparation of the President's radio broadcast it was that kind of business that the President had in mind when he lashed out against what he called "damnable misstatements" that are picked up and quoted in Axis propaganda and used to help Germany and Japan with their conquests, and to break down faith at home and abroad in the United States.

PRESIDENT'S SON ATTACKED FOR GETTING SHORE LEAD

An example of this kind of irresponsible talk was a speech in the House by Representative Pfeiffer, a New York Republican, who on Thursday announced the granting of one month's shore leave to Lieutenant Franklin Roosevelt Jr., after an operation for appendicitis. The Congressman cited that as an example of favoritism. He said nobody but the President's son would be allowed a month in which to recover from an operation.

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