

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1942

"Queeseling"

On the Radio, It Seems That No Pronunciation Is Final

Every time we think that here, now, is a foreign word that no one need know how to pronounce, along comes some radio announcer with his veneer of quick learning out of a glossary, spreading uncertainty in his synthetic basso.

Ever since the Norwegian traitor came to power, everyone we know has been calling him Quisling, with the first syllable pronounced "quiz." It was good enough for us and for the radio people, too—up until the other day.

But your radio commentator won't get well enough alone, no sirree. He must change Ukraine to Ukraine and back to Ukraine. Thus, he now refers to Vidkun Quisling.

Where this pronunciation came from, we don't know. Maybe it's correct. But for our money, we'd just as soon have Quisling, rhyming with fizzling.

It is only a matter of days now, we suppose, until we'll be able, after the adventures of Seeyoo-permon, to tune a new set of the latest devilments of Adolf Heiltraire.

No Keeley Cure

Drinks in Army Would Be Fine—For Drunks

The Boston draft board's protest of a 4-F classification usually handed to chronic alcoholics will appear in the next missionary than to the military mind. It would be a good thing, inubitably, and perhaps a kind thing, to send these young drunks to a work camp where they might harden both their bodies and their souls.

But the Army offers the Army in manual labor and discipline, the Army would be good for them.

Insofar, too as there is any sham or futility in their avoidance of military service, it would be gratifying to see them caught in the draft and hauled off to camp for the army's version of the Dick Hill treatment. It would be a very medicine.

For them, that is, but not necessarily for the Army.

The immediate and ultimate purpose of Army training is neither the reform of the individual nor the salvation of the unit. It is, in a word, combat, combat in direct contact with the enemy or maintenance of forces which are in direct contact with the enemy. All other purposes are secondary to Army organization or outright identification in combat. Chronic alcoholics have, unfortunately, a usefulness to the Army in the prosecution of its main mission. Whether or not they have some vestige of usefulness to other branches of a Government in a purely incidental question.

Dependency

Draft Boards Need Staff To Check Prospects' Claims

The unfortunate and confusing system of packing selectees off to Army camps before giving them an adequate physical examination is only one of many ways that are plaguing local draft boards. Likely to give even more trouble is the lack of a staff of local investigators, sorely needed by draft authorities to check up on the dependency claims of those object to the draft.

Now that the supply exhausted, local I-A men are up against the tougher problem of deciding the validity of dependency claims. At present, these decisions are being based largely on the affidavits of prospective draftees. In cases where a question or outright falsification is suspected, an investigation may be made, but it is obvious that the limited personnel allotted to each board does not permit anything like a thorough inquiry into each case.

What each board needs is a staff of trained investigators who can get the facts about prospective draftees. For the government to delay in authorizing and

Nazis Go Sluggish

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON
A CERTAIN sluggishness within the Nazi military is now visible to the eye.

General Rommel's drive in Libya should have been completed weeks before if the Nazi war machine was still clicking at its oldtime pace. His preparations were not so well concealed and lagged behind former Hitler.

Now he has only about six weeks left before sweltering desert heat joins the side of the British defenders of the Nile.

The Russians have lately picked up some German prisoners with no more than five or six weeks' training. It is murder to send men with no more experience into battle, even to fill out completed units, as is apparently being done.

MANPOWER MUST BE A PRESSING PROBLEM
Certainly the German general staff would not be using them anywhere if manpower was not a pressing problem.

The best balanced estimate here of Hitler's losses to date, mostly in Russia, is 1,750,000 killed and about the same number severely wounded. This would mean around 3,500,000 Nazis out of action.

These are the best trained German troops, a specialized shock troops, sappers, engineers, paratroopers, etc.

They cannot be replaced, they were especially trained for their superior talents and physical stamina.

How far the Germans have been plinched is attested by the fact that they are filling up their losses on the south Russian front with Baikan soldiers.

Several of these mechanized units have been reorganized into infantry because equipment was not available for them.

These heartening suggestions have bolstered hopes for the Russian cause, but not beyond the scope set forth in this column yesterday.

STUART CHASE SUGGESTS A NEW ORDER
[A harsher system for post-war America than any yet suggested]

The "Road We Are Traveling" publishing commission is offered in preliminary form by Stuart Chase, who would not betray him in his hour of peril.

But Italy—there's the place to watch. If a British and American invasion fleet, protected by planes from Malta and other bases, could land troops in force and knock out the wavering Italians and their Aryan masters, Hitler's doom would be sealed.

He knows also that he must hold Italy. He knows also that the only available force that could successfully challenge a combined British and American assault is the French Fleet.

The French fleet, powerful enough to swing the balance of power either way and decisively in the Mediterranean, is based at Toulon. Toulon is at the extreme southern tip of France, less than 100 miles from the Italian border.

Moreover, if Hitler finds that he will not need the French Fleet for defensive purposes, it is certain that he will not hesitate to use it offensively in his drive for Near Eastern oil.

In any event it would seem that the showdown with Vichy was more of a defeatist move on Hitler's part, one designed to prevent the drafted front war. His concern betrays vulnerability and it will be a pity if the United Nations are not able to hang a haymaker on him before he can cover up completely.

Deadly Peril?

What's Restraining That Jap Fleet in the Indian Ocean?

It is a complete battle fleet, Winston Churchill has said. He has in the Indian Ocean. Three or more big battleships, five or six aircraft carriers, dozens of heavy and light cruisers, flotillas of destroyers—against a British squadron of unknown strength. Offhand it would seem that the Japs had enough stuff to go wherever they pleased, shell any port, crush any opposition.

Yet, except for the two British cruisers sunk by planes from one of the carriers, this mighty Jap fleet doesn't seem to have done a great deal of damage. One can't help wondering why, if the raiders possess such a preponderance of strength, they haven't scoured the whole Indian east coast.

Without discussing the matter further, we'd hazard a guess that Mr. Churchill's mournful song was not without purpose, and it would be not at all surprising if that astute gentleman has something up the sleeve of his pea-jacket.

A typical case of hoarding in the first degree would be saving the sugar for rhubarb.

This Spring

—By Herblock

WHEN YOU CLEAN UP THE HOUSE



HELP TO CLEAN UP THE AXIS



Letters to the Editors

"Blackout" - - A Poem

Editors, The News:

On a quiet Sunday night
A siren screamed:
Blackout!
And quickly everybody's light
Snapped out.

Daddy, why are we in the dark?
A small boy asked.
Lights out!
Punching for the right remark
Dad went out.

Dad went out and saw the sky
Spinnin' clean
With stars.
And there he found the answer
Why our history's page
Lights were out.

Son, he said, when he came back,
We're in the dark.
They say,
Because we see best, after black,
The light of day.
—JOHN A. JOHNSON, Charlotte.

Weed Out The Politicians

Editors, The News:
When the smoke of battle has cleared away, when the light of Freedom again shines throughout the world, we should erect to the fallen heroes of Bataan a monument that will stand for all time and serve as a grim reminder to those who would enslave the Liberty loving people of the whole world.

In our native land, over the air waves and through the columns of the newspapers, we should wage a ceaseless war on those who would obstruct progressive legislation for purely political purposes. This should begin now. We have in our national assembly men who in my opinion have not been loyal to the people whom they represent. Each of these should be singled out, and his record carefully kept, and at the proper time, publicly air his record, just as he is meted out. We should make it so hot for this

type politician that they would be entirely eliminated. We could draft if necessary, keep forgotten men to take their place, who would not ignore words of warning such as were given by the late Billy Mitchell.

—GEORGE L. McELVEEN, Lumpkin, Ga.

Saga Of Bataan

Editors, The News:
If General Little had could crush a mighty host
Of Midlandian pagans in a long-gone age;
If Crockett's gallant death, when fell the Alamo,
Could write a timeless epic on our history's page;
If Leonidas' Spartans at Thermopylae,
And our Colonial patriots at Bunker Hill,
Could bid and die, and "take it" in sweet Freedom's cause—
A hundred million freemen now may shout "WE WILL!"

"We will"—since those brave martyrs did not die in vain
We will take up the torch that glorified Bataan—
The torch that flames as crimson as Old Glory's bars,
And lights the trail for all our boys to carry on!

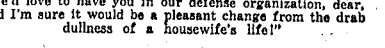
Hail, heroes of the foeholes Spartan-like you stood,
Though, ten to one the yellow, And still, Old Glory floats above Corregidor.

BATAAN! A thousand years will ring your children's name!
—THOMAS ELMORE LUCY, North Little Rock, Ark.

"100,899" Is Still on the Job

Editors, The News:
I know you would have been pleased had you seen something

Side Glances



"We'd love to have you in our defense organization, dear, and I'm sure it would be a pleasant change from the drab dullness of a housewife's life!"

The Chiang Kai-Sheks

By Raymond Clapper

CHUNGKING, CHINA
JUST as we have the President and Mrs. Roosevelt, so the Chinese have their Generalissimo and Mrs. Chiang Kai-Shek. You always have to include Mrs. Chiang in China's public scene.

Just as we always include Mrs. Roosevelt in ours.

An index to the importance of the Generalissimo's wife is the fact that she is most frequently referred to here simply as Madame.

She is sought out by those who want to influence the Generalissimo. Sometimes she gets crosswise of Chinese politicians, who do not always relish her activities.

MADAME LIVES UP TO ADVANCE NOTICE

I had thought it impossible for anyone to live up to such advance notices as Madame Chiang Kai-Shek has had in America. Yet I find that she has not been overthrown in anything I have seen printed in the United States so far to her beauty, her vivacity, or her intelligence. Her personality is powerful without being in the least formidable. She possesses a complete naturalness and informality, while at the same time she is wise to everything that is going on and often has a hand in it.

There is no suggestion that the Generalissimo is in her shadow or under her control. They are more like our Roosevelt, each putting on his and her hats but never getting far out of step with the other. Madame is the ice-breaker for the Generalissimo, especially with foreigners, as he must speak with them through an interpreter while she hits out in good American slang. She knows how to handle foreigners.

Madame is especially interested in convincing foreigners that China means to develop free foreign control. In that she is voicing a sentiment that is growing among the Chinese. But she is by no means anti-foreign. On the contrary, she looks forward to some form of international organization. She is not a foreigner. She is a nationalist, must be a free member of that organization, without foreign controls.

GENERALISSIMO SENDS THANKS TO AMERICA!

I told the Generalissimo that I had ridden part of the way to Chungking on a crate of propellers for China's air force. He asked me to thank his friends in America, especially Laughlin Currie, one of President Roosevelt's administrative assistants, for their help. Currie spent some time in China.

I asked the Generalissimo what he wanted especially. He said air-planes. I gathered that he has received fewer planes than he expected. It appears to be hard for him to understand why they are not coming in larger numbers. If planes come, he said, China can hold out.

I gathered that the Generalissimo is much concerned about India. He appears to feel that the loss of India would be fatal to China, because it would cut off China's supplies.

The Generalissimo thinks the main Japanese attack will not be on Australia, but will be on India, and cut the Allied supply lines.

CHINESE WANT INDIA

This accounts in part for the strong hope among Chinese leaders that India will remain united as one country. Some of them feel that the British proposal was defective in permitting the splitting up of India. It is believed the Generalissimo shares this view.

Americans should realize the great honor they were paid by the Chinese through Chiang Kai-Shek's action in asking Liang-Gen, Joseph W. Stilwell to be his chief of staff. This is the first time Chinese troops have been allowed to serve under a foreign commander, and it comes in the face of China's determination to get rid of all foreign intriguements, such as extraterritoriality and customs control. The Chinese have known General Stilwell for years.

I know positively that the Generalissimo is giving his unrestrained backing and supporting him in every way, regardless of his own commanders. On one occasion he grew indignant when he thought General Stilwell was not being given the proper co-operation.

So, whatever you hear about China, you can put it down flat—and every American here will back it up—that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek is in this war for the duration, and ready to go to any length to co-operate with the American effort.

Visitin' Around

Simple as ABC (Marshall News-Record)

Mr. O. S. Edmonds returned Thursday from an extended and successful business trip up in Virginia.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

This is good news indeed: The gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God unto salvation unto all that believe.—Romans 1:16.