THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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● W. C. Dowd, 1865-1927 ●

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TUESDAY, MAY 26, 1942

Extreme Penalty

The WCTU Invokes It for Those Who Dare To Disagree

A characteristic of the extreme right, bitterness, organization such as the Women's Christian Temperance Union is its readiness to brand as disloyal those who dare to express an opinion not shared by their own. When Frank Sims, related to the WCTU's questionnaire submitted to candidates for the Legislature and made bold to tell his interrogators that he was a long-time advocate of liquor stores but felt that the present was no time to agitate this controversial question, she suggested that the estimable ladies of the WCTU would do their country and their state a far greater service if they devoted their energies to the promotion of unity among our citizens; we could have told him that he'd better duck.

Yesterday he was of his legislative director, Mrs. Helen Robertson Wolf, the WCTU lashed out. And characteristically, it ignored the issue entirely and with hardly concealed malevolence, turned the attack to personalities.

Let Mr. Sims, the WCTU heatedly replied, join the Army. And "when he is called upon to fire a rifle or field gun or pilot a plane, he will then have the opportunity to determine for himself the measure of value or danger of war-time whisky, wine or beer, the intoxicants he seeks to defend."

In short, and unmistakably, let the gentleman be exposed to death on the battlefield for daring to differ with the Christian purposes of the WCTU. It would only serve him right.

War Explained

Gen. Stilwell Describes Our Success in the Pacific

Lieut. Gen. Joseph Stilwell, Chiang Kai-Shek's Chief of Staff, yesterday gave a brief but most recent analysis of the war in the Pacific as it has developed thus far. The General, known to his troops as "Vinegar Joe," had just arrived in New Delhi after a twenty-day safari most of it on foot, through the jungles of Burma.

At New Delhi one of the AP's foreign correspondents got hold of him for an interview. The General was waiting, and as the reporter posed his pencil, he spoke his mind.

"I claim," he said, "that we got a hell of a beating. We got run out of Burma and it is as humiliating as hell."

Substitute the Philippines for Burma and substitute Hong Kong, Singapore, Borneo, Sumatra, Java, in fact almost any place in which troops of the United Nations have engaged the Japs, and the General's post mortem applies equally as well. Wherever it was, we got a hell of a beating. We got run out. It was as humiliating as hell.

When will the war be over, Americans ask? Let Vinegar Joe answer that one: Hell he'd say, not until we stop getting the hell beat out of us anyhow.

Shylock

John L. Turns Vinegaroon And Wants "His" Money Back

The Policy Committee and Executive Board of John L. Lewis pocket union, the United Mine Workers, are meeting this week. Among other things they are expected to come to a decision about a little matter of $1,600,000 which the UMW advanced or loaned to put the CIO on its feet.

In one sense, John Lewis who seems constantly to put the golden magnificent feel the money is himself. It was Lewis principally of UMW who helped the way to the formation of CIO, in spread as the union was to be.

A month or so ago Lewis UMW president, got so boiling mad at the CIO and with CIO President Phil Murray that he fell into a mood of black pessimism. Well he could be in office if he will be the boss of the show. Lewis, in trouble with Mister Murray for that $1,600,000 may make wonders that CIO way back when.

Oh, no, replied Mr. Murray and his advisers, that loan was never meant to be paid back in cash.

And there the matter stands with the UMW seemingly divided — or so at over whether they ought to insist on payment.

As an outsider in the squabble we'd like to ask one question. If it was not intended that the sum be repaid to the UMW in cash, just what under did the negotiator contemplate in use?

We'd hazard a guess at it. Mr. Lewis has been himself that money. We suspect that he secretly believed that he was buying the permanent leader-hip of the vast new labor organization, which the government was helping him to build. This is indicated by his sudden anger when it became obvious that he was no longer the most powerful man in the CIO.

The CIO made a similar loan to the Democratic Party. And John Lewis received in exactly the same way which he found that he had not purchased Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Same old John L.

Three Promises

Democrats Will Find Them Easier Made Than Kept

In the language of the platform North Carolina Democrats drew up at their convention last week, there is a kind of optimistic certainty. In this respect it was and much different, we guess, from most party platforms. You know how the points are made, we won't do that but we will do this. Cool and self-assured.

Take the first three assurances of the new State Democratic platform:

1. The budget will be balanced.
2. Present State taxes will not be increased. No new taxes will be levied.
3. All essential State services will be maintained.

Well, that's all very nice to know; but suppose, under the inescapable national program, that gasoline and sales tax revenue go into a tailspin. The decline in gas tax collections has already started and it is reasonable to expect something of the same dip in sales taxes. Will there then be enough money to maintain all essential state services? No new or higher taxes, remember. And borrowing is out. And budget will stay in balance.

We don't question the sincerity of the platform draftsmen. But wouldn't it have sound a little more solid if they had said something like this:

We know that the war is going to cut tax revenues with a pretty heavy hand. But instead of adding to the tax rate or levying new taxes or borrowing, we promise to make the money we do get go as far as possible. If it comes to the place where revenues won't support the essential services, we'll have to try something else.

Anyway, that's what we think the Democrats meant. And we hope they had in the back of their minds, at least, the realization that "essential services" might forget appropriations for the State hospitals at Morganton, Raleigh and Goldsboro.

Sample

Teaneck, N. J., Takes Civilian Defense Spotlight

It was close enough to real bombing: the two Army planes smashed together in mid-air and while the pilots floated down under parachutes, parts of aircraft rained down on the New Jersey suburb. The fuselage of a pursuit plane, loaded with gasoline, makes a pretty good imitation bomb. One of these fell on a Mr. Dunnigan's garage and started a sizable fire.

So was the luckier but a good deal is to be inferred. Under ordinary circumstances Mr. Dunnigan would have telephoned the fire department. Perhaps he did. We don't know whether firemen even got there or not. For the report says simply:

"Civilian Defense workers extinguished the blaze before it spread."

Teaneck is a little American community chosen at random by the fates for a local experiment. Residents of Teaneck were in all probability no more concerned about the possibility of a bombing attack than the average dweller on Dickey Drive in Charlotte.

Without considering that the whole of America is ready to cope with a bombing raid, it is indicated that Civilian Defense is ready.

He who seeks to kill this nation is a foolish man. A remarkable array of talent.

"When Joan crowned Charles a fifteenth century, the guillotine was called the Terrorist. Where we would have supposed was another annoyance entirely.

Four Spots To Watch

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON

THAT unidentified "high Washington official" who warned some blows as well as victories must be expected was high enough to know what he was talking about. He had more in mind than the law of averages.

Certain specific spots around the world are being watched very closely from here as we pass the turning point of our own preparation into the phase of aggressive action, to wit.

Russian front — all expect the Russians to hold through the Summer, but the Spring fighting has not started too well for our side.

HITLER CLEARS HIS FLANK IN THE SOUTH

Rostov was a red thorn in the side of the Nazis. Its complete loss means a clear flank for Hitler in a southern Russian leap of the Sea of Azov and assumption of an obvious duty of defendere the Kuban and Moscow attacks several thousand casualties these Germans can ill afford, real figure lies somewhere between.

This annexure could have been offset by swift capture of Kharkov, but just as the Russians were ready to march in a few days back, Von Bock, the Nazi general, slicked and outflanked them.

Disconforting but hardly disastrous news, is possible from Russia.

China, their spot is really tight-rope to a pin point. The Japanese drive should at least cripple their armies, and a lot more valuable territory may be lost. The situation can not be told this way.

JAPS THINK THEY KNOW OUR BOMBER BASES

The Jap idea of where Doolittle bombers come from and no idea is yours is circumscribed to an arc from Tokyo including Hongkong, Chungking in central China. Inside that arc are hidden air fields in the islands of Tokyo, which remain a threat to the Japanese homeland.

It is that area upon which their immediate attack is concentrated. The Vinegar-Vinegar drive is apt to be at least partly successful, as China is practically cut off from our flow of heavy munitions.

Sea fronts while we pushed our troops safely across to Northern Ireland and can push more anytime some authorities mourn the fact that this job required drawing destroyers in from other points and ships were sunk as a result.

Criticism has been heard that we sent many troops to Northern Ireland a British base, also where the largest invasion military force of the United Nations already is present. It seems to me the explanation is that the British have always feared a Nazi occupation of Ireland and thought American troops would be more welcome as defenders than British. Probably no more will be needed.

Home front—we have heralded Japan and Japan will bomb our mainland as soon as they can figure out a way of doing it. Our new found optimism should be accompanied by increased alertness.

MORE GOOD NEWS ON PRODUCTION FRONT

News from the production battle front continues to generate confidence. More stories are told of mechanical discoveries and victories there, for instance.

Morale of workers has improved tremendously since the last of the year. No big devastating strikes have been reported in that period.

General Motors has discovered a new technique for mass production of machine guns which is drawing wide favorable praise.

Complicated Aircraft is building three new medical bombers on a production line, a mass method never before achieved.

Aircraft which had so much trouble with that impalement-type engine engine, has succeeded in bending out bugs and is producing.

Skilled workers are beginning to produce by from Dixie wartime training and factory training wood.

The famed Chrysler tank arsenal was started in October, 1942, and the plant is completed in eighteen months. At that rate it would not have been finished, but it has been producing tanks for some time.

Recent other new plants have been completed ahead of schedule. Consolidated Bomber Ford's Willow Run, Michigan.

Fabulous beyond to plan making machine guns a year and a half ago. Has now also reached mass production schedules.

The machine tool industry is entitled to fly the highest flag. Its work is the basis of all production and it was our first bottleneck. But the figures show it decided production in one year, has doubling again.

So nation, no system of Government or economic anywhere in the world can match these feats.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

The miraculous balance of the universe is in good hands. God never forgets. *While the earth remaineth seed time and harvest shall not cease.*—Genesis 8:22.

The Busy Commuter

—By Herblock

The Goering Confessions

By Dorothy Thompson

NEW YORK

THE circumstances surrounding the Goering speech on Wednesday are as revealing as the speech itself. Every attempt was made to exclude it from abroad. Normally, official speeches are transmitted by short wave through neutral correspondents in Berlin, and by Transocean—the German news service. Only small excerpts of this one were shortwaved. Mr. Axelson of the New York Times in Stockholm reports that telephonic reports of the speech were intercepted, the German news services did not put it out.

IT WAS AN EFFORT TO PATCH UP MORALE

However the British got the full text off medium wave of this speech, which is of prodigious length. Reading it in full, one is immediately aware that this is not Goering him-elf and alone speaking. It's not his flamboyant style—the speech is a masterpiece of deliberation and diction. It is a collaborative effort of the Nazi Party aimed at a deteriorated morale. And every verbal weapon is used. The appeal to sacrifice, building, popularity of Hitler—the speech reveals that this is about all the regime has left; description of terrible hardships, accompanied by veiled threats and exhortations to hearten. And, at the same time, a peculiar undertone of hedging.

BUT THE FUEHRER WAS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE

The Fuehrer has behaved like a genius and a hero. All that you have suffered, he has suffered more intensely, and of the line in his steel heart. But he alone, also is solely responsible for everything—for all the disasters as well as all the gains. "The Fuehrer saw to every little detail. He himself directed every single battle part; he instructed every battalion what position to take." And, "this can be said: Ordinarily people would have thrown in their hands."

And, finally, the remarkable rhetorical question: "Do you believe that Destiny plays such stupid tricks as to give people such a Leader, and let it be used from distress, only to hurl it indifferently into the abyss?"

There are moments in the speech when one feels Antonius addressing Caesar—and it is not sure whether he has come to praise Caesar or to bury him.

HARKING BACK TO THE WAR GLORY

The speech arranges itself in sections. There is the legitimate emphasis on the Fuehrer's peace-ful intentions—the enraged attempt to deprive of war guilt. In this part of the speech there are hints of peace to-feers now, for in describing what the Fuehrer regarded as outside the range of bargaining are mentioned Austria, Sudetenland, and Danzig. In the inference that these still remain the only things that are out of the range of negotiation? But this speech was designed for internal consumption, so it is no effect. It is only suggestive of the idea that these are the only things the German people care about.

Then there is a description of the German Winter campaign which, with all objectivity I must say belongs to literature. It is a description of sheer frozen horror. No one on our side has ever described the horror of this campaign as Goering describes it. Moreover he confirms what this column has written, and others have written, of the despair among the German leadership.

There is no question—as one reads this speech—that German Generals other than going up—if any the campaign was lost. In fact, it was only Hitler who insisted the campaign was not lost and who held it at unimaginable cost. And he bids as victory the fact that the German armies are still standing where they were—and here he digresses to attack enemy propaganda, repeatedly the enemy claim that the elite of the German forces has been destroyed. But the only proof that he advances is the mention of the Battle of Kerch in half a sentence without mentioning Kerch.

MORE WORK LESS FOOD, STILL HARSHER LAWS

His description of the Winter campaign is used to admonish the German workers that their hardships are naught compared to what these other Germans suffered, and to prepare them for further hardships—more than ten hours daily, less food, more rationing, stricter laws against defeatism.

And he even mentions despair on the German home front—"Do not fall into despair even as your comrades at the front did not fall into despair." This is all very well, but he has previously told his audience that many did fall into despair, including practically all the leadership except Hitler.

But the most startling part of the speech, for us, is the immense part of it that he devotes to an appeal against enemy propaganda. He specifically mentions radio Nix after all there is a death sentence for listening to foreign broadcasts in Germany, but it is quite obvious it is not working at all.

HITLER'S NEW POWERS ARE UNPOPULAR

There is a long section for the new powers granted Hitler.

He is referring to the speech of Hitler on April 26 which was discussed at length in this column. It is clearly obvious that the new powers are unpopular. He attempts to mollify his hearers by complaints of the necessity of taking measures against "even the same people who exclaim thrice-weekly from the rooftops that everything is wrong. Now he tries to prepare for a more rigorous use of these powers.

"The Swiss papers report that fourteen people have been executed in Stuttgart and that the Gestapo has seized a number of German judges for passing too light sentences upon deserters."

Now the moral of this, for us, is that our propaganda is getting through to the German people, that it is a real weapon, that it is reaching a demoralized people, and that we should organize it ruthlessly, fight the entire front and the home front are bad. Let us attack them both.

Letters to the Editors:

"Father, Forgive Them..."

Editors, The News:

No one's more interested in North Carolina for many years to immediately me as does the outspoken "Clergyman's Temperance Force" of Rosewood, Goldsboro.

To me it is pitiable that any representative of such a great church, as is the Baptist Church, should show such intolerance. Mr. Hoyt presses it that Christ when scared what is the greatest commandment in the law, replied "thou shalt worship the Lord Thy God," and it is very evident that the ministers involved in this disgraceful incident have never seen that word THY. If the soldiers feel in this war as they did in the last war they come out what church was being for, but they don't want to know its an companion with the God and the Christ within, because they can worship him, and find church in that manner. Christ lives to worship God or his church down their throats or the throats of those said things who do not attend church for that very reason. Jesus once mentioning coming to him in the next few years, if that awakening Israel come through the lack of prayers and empty pews in the nations churches.

The next and a very important reason is that many of the fine boys who came to us as conscripts have been treated as Catholics and in many of our North Carolina communities they have nowhere to worship. I think it is time we all home, and I for one am glad that the RC centers are in the hands of the Catholics. Because I well remember that during the last war the Knights of Columbus and Protestant organizations worked together as brothers and sons of God assisting each other at the bedsides of dying boys during the great influenza epidemic. Knowing instant Catholic, Protestant, Jew, not Gentile and we have the best time to bear a product. Protestants and Catholics have chance of the Holy century.

As a North Carolinian and Protestant I hope that Catholic brothers, and especially Mrs. Mary Frances Redmond will see, as I believe they are big enough and strong enough to see, Father forgive them for they know not what they do."

CALVIN OGLE, PAINT CO.
506 Rozzelles Ferry Rd.
Charlotte

Senator Bailey's "Service Rendered"

Editors, The News:

Senator Bailey in his advertisements is asking the people to re-elect him to the Senate. The advertisements say that Bailey has experience and ability to serve the people. Now I am a working man and a laboring man. Bailey has been in the Senate for twelve years. If he has ability to serve, why has he not already done something for the laboring and the farmers? I have kept up with his record and he has never cast a vote for the farmer or in the interest of labor and I want him to tell the laboring man, the farmer and the small business man what real he has done for these classes. Certainly he is more of a citizen himself.

I am a farmer and I have not yet seen a real good word for Bailey in your Public Forum.

CHARLES A. STAMEY
Pinkney Stamey,
Gastonia, N. C.

Studying For Peace

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON

SOME misunderstanding seems to have grown out of a statement by this Government regarding the future status of the French Empire, including its overseas possessions.

This matter is kicking around now in unofficial conversations among diplomatic people and others regarding the future world settlement. It has come into the discussion especially in the light of Vice-President Wallace's recent speech advocating an end to political and military imperialism after this war.

WELLES GIVES ASSURANCES TO FRENCH PEOPLE

On April 13, Sumner Welles, acting as Secretary of State in the absence of Mr. Hull, addressed a note to the Vichy Ambassador here. This note was in answer to a protest from Vichy over the establishment of an American consulate general at Brazzaville in Free French Africa.

Secretary Welles in his reply was taking the opportunity to express the American Government's support of the French people. In that connection Mr. Welles said, "The Government of the United States fervently hopes that it may see the re-establishment of the independence of France and of the integrity of French territory." He also said the United States recognizes the sovereign jurisdiction of the people of France over the territory of France and over French possessions overseas.

That has been construed in some quarters as a pledge that after the war the United States would exert its influence toward the restoration of all colonies and possessions to France. These include not only Martinique but large areas in Africa, Madagascar, New Caledonia in the southwest Pacific, and French Indo-China.

WILL OTHER COLONIAL EMPIRES BE RESTORED?

Some have said that if the United States is giving a pledge to restore the colonial empire of France it should also pledge itself to assist in restoring the colonial empires of other powers, notably Great Britain and The Netherlands. So when Vice-President Wallace and other officials talk about an end of imperialism spokesmen for other countries in the United Nations group then raise questions as to whether we are being consistent. There has been strong pressure on the White House for some kind of pledge with regard to restoring territory formerly held by other United Nations.

So far as I can learn, it is not considered accurate to interpret the letter by Mr. Welles as a pledge to insist upon the return of all French territory. Secretary Hull said a few days ago at a press conference that the United States has had in mind at all times the preservation of the sovereignty of France and her people. But when asked if that meant the United States looked forward to the restoration of the whole French Empire after the war and considered itself bound to that in a settlement Mr. Hull replied that the question had never been taken up. What we have taken up he said was the question of our concern for the French people and our desire to see restoration of all French popular institutions that is the rights and benefits that the French Republic once enjoyed.

GOVERNMENT IS STILL STUDYING PLAN FOR PEACE

This Government is still engaged in the study of what it would like to see emerge as the peace arrangements. Until these studies are completed, perhaps within the course of a few more weeks, this Government is scarcely in a position to talk seriously with other governments regarding post war arrangements.

However, the time is approaching when it is hoped that this Government will begin to move in an attempt to work out at least some tentative and provisional understandings as to the things that the peace should take through the United Nations.

It is not that anybody here is anxious, pushing an end to the war but rather a feeling that it is desirable both in advance to begin preparing for the end. Some also consider it desirable to do this in order to clarify the position of the United Nations in Asia where some elements are representing the Allied effort as merely an attempt to restore the status quo.

Visitin' Around

Hm, So That's the Way It Is

(North Wilkesboro Hustler)

The North Wilkesboro Ice & Fuel Company, up to last Saturday, had not taken their regular rounds to supply ice to residences early morning as they will later during the warm weather but at the present time no last weeks were necessary only when called twice each morning and takes who are regular around customers.

Incredent

(Pine Hill Gem)

Mount Airy Times:

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Cooper were honored with a dining Saturday night.