

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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

W. C. Dowd Jr., President  
J. E. Dowd, Vice-President  
and General Manager  
and Editor  
W. C. Dowd, 1885-1927

The daily edition of The Charlotte News was established in 1888. The Evening Chronicle (established 1892) 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.

Subscribed 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, 61 cents. By mail: One month 67 cents; three months, \$2.00; six months, \$3.50; one year, \$10.40.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1942

## Quaint System

## Holy Smoke!

Georgia's Unit Vote Made To Order For Demagogues

Congress Gives Priority To Ballots Over Bullets

Georgia Jettisoned Gene. It looks as this is written, with the haggard AP bureau in Atlanta still tabulating and still tearing its hair at the slowness of the returns from the outlying precincts which Georgia is full of. The decisive manner in which Gene was rejected shows up in the total vote, which is running nearly 60-40 in Arnsall's favor, and for a wonder it shows up even more in the unit vote, which is what counts.

That unit system is worth an asterisk, inasmuch as it helps to explain Talmadge's three previous terms. Georgia, like North Carolina, is a state of many counties—150, we make 'em—ranging in population all the way from 100,000 to 1,000,000. (Atlanta, with 150,000 or so inhabitants to tiny Echols with its 3,000 souls. Between these 150 counties are divided 410 unit votes, apportioned according to their population of half a century ago, with no county having more than six unit votes, no county less than one.

At the very least, in half a dozen sparsely inhabited counties may cancel out the expression of a hundred times their number in the urban counties. And thus it is that Gallus Gene, catching his appeal to the backcountry boys, has been able to hold sway. Thus too it is that the unit system, being the variable of the unit system and disunited toward reapportionment, has been able to perpetuate itself.

When any man, no matter the size of his popular vote, wins Georgia's unit vote, it can safely be said that he was the choice of the whole damned state.

## A Fumble?

Meat Rationing Plan May Be Price of Pampering

Meat rationing, now out in the open after months of closed-door planning, is receiving a loud national chorus of protest. The step, dealers insist, would not have been necessary had the Administration acted courageously in the beginning and pegged livestock prices early in the OPA program. The looming shortage is caused, apparently, because packers, wedged between high prices on one hand and retail ceiling prices on the other, are refusing to buy for marketing at a loss.

And many a big herd in the year of record production still wanders in pastures, awaiting a day of even higher prices for the farmers. For months, the Government has been taking (for Army, Navy and Lend-Lease) from 40 to 60 per cent of beef and pork, and instructing dealers that with the remainder they must care for civilians and Army camps in their territory.

For the year, the country will produce over 24 billion pounds of meat; but the demand will go over 27 billion pounds. Hence the shortage, and hence rationing. The suggested rations of Secretary Wickard are not severe. Two and a half pounds per week is the 1930-40 average. Great Britain's ration is a pound per week, Germany's twelve ounces, Italy's three to four ounces.

But comparisons and figures will not satisfy the meat dealers; they will not satisfy consumers when rationing does come. There is a suspicion, and there are grounds for it here, that the food rationing program was necessitated by lack of foresight or to act on the part of the Administration. It will be poorly received.

The popular, plainly enough, will not be found at sacrifice, but welcome them. The kind of sacrifice the people want to make, however, is the kind that will help in winning the war—not to cover up the Administration. This may well be the final provoking blow it takes in its protest against Washington's unwarranted pampering of farm interests. Because this one, after all, strikes in the dining room, and at madam's pocketbook.

When the inventors are quite through with the war, a Kansas Miss hopes they do something about a shoe which is larger inside than it is outside.

Long and painful experience has shown that voting for just anyone, to the aid of the incumbent, is asking for more of the same.

## Contacts

There Will Come The Rub In Race Relations

Sometimes, when racial feeling flares up, we almost shudder at the nature of the problem which the South has to face. Take the disgraceful incidents on the Southern Railway's through train en route to Memphis. Aboard were a number of delegates to a Negro Baptist conference, some of them occupying a specially chartered Pullman, others in day coaches. The train was made up in such a way that between the Negro day coaches and the special Pullman there were day coaches for whites, and when the Negroes would visit from one car to the other, passing through the white cars, it made the white people angry.

After awhile two white women rose up and accosted a 76-year-old Negro, a doctor (probably D. D. from Hartford, Conn.). They struck him in the face, cutting his eyes and lips and breaking his glasses. Another Negro preacher (from Washington) was likewise struck and thrown out of the train. If there is a clear-cut Supreme Court ruling, he had every right to go in the lack of separate facilities for Negroes only.

But it is not the whites who are likely to be found in dining cars from whom racial mistreatment of this kind will come. It will take place, as in this case, in the day coaches. And the issues that will exacerbate relations between the two races in the South are not those academic ones of equivalent facilities for higher education, just for the Negro in courts of law, or even, unless both races are stupider than they have any right to be, the franchise. No, the white race, as a whole, is willing, even anxious, to bring the Negro along in his own sphere. It will be from personal contacts on trains, buses, streets, in plants and stores that trouble may come unless, with reasonable hope for the future and respect for the past, the two races act to prevent it.

The Army life makes the young man who comes home and marries the girl and has to be redone.

Resolved To Uphold The State. —BY HERBLOCK

And He'd Better Get Tough



## Hole Card

## Choice Of Words

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON  
MR. ROOSEVELT did not submit his wage-price program to Congress as planned. All he said to Congress was (in effect):

"You repeat that obnoxious farm-price infating law within three weeks, and allow me freely to move against our rising threat of inflation. I will put my program into effect, regardless of your restrictions."

Something happened the last few days before the message to cause a change in White House plans.

The President's trouble-composer, Judge Rosenman, had submitted to Mr. Roosevelt several recommendations for Executive action without Congressional approval. These headed up toward inauguration of an overall economic control board, made up of various Government chiefs (McNutt, Henderson, Davis, Eccles, Nelson, Wickard).

Mr. Roosevelt, tired of creating super-boards on top of failures, and mindful of some inner criticism, then seemed to agree toward naming a chairman of the board with such strong powers that he could be popularly known as a czar over prices and wages.

For that job he possible had decided upon a man not too much of a laborer, or farm bloc man, to be suspected of favoritism in administering wages and prices.

Presumably he wanted someone who would establish the confidence of the country (Baruch and Lehman being mentioned in most of the newspaper accounts, although some three in the names of Justice Douglas and other left-leaning New Dealers who did not fill the requirement, or McNutt, who is already running for President in 1944).

When Mr. Roosevelt tried this program out on Congressmen in advance, he ran into objections, mainly from the farm bloc. Some of them, like Senator Norris of Nebraska, spoke out publicly.

A day or two before the President was scheduled to speak, Norris openly warned him Congress would "raise hell" if he tried tampering on its constitutional prerogatives.

So the President decided to give them three weeks to do it the regular way, their way—if they could. His threat to do it anyway if October 1 implied

his own doubt that the farm bloc would relent and let him do it.

No one now doubts the wisdom of freezing wages and prices. It should have been done nine months ago, when the war started, as Bernard Baruch still the fairest and smartest economist in contact with Mr. Roosevelt then told the White House.

The part of it that Mr. Roosevelt did not tell in his message, and the story with which the farm bloc men have justified themselves for their own selfish politics, is that Mr. Roosevelt was not holding down the union.

"You are letting the union get theirs; we will get ours."

This weakness in the President's position still prevails in his message. While his presentation of the case against rising wages and prices is straightforward and non-political, and his plan to act carries the same honest, open-handed tone, he did not say how, or how fairly, he will "stabilize" union wages. Significantly, perhaps, he does not use the words "fix" or "freeze" in this connection, but only in connection with prices.

All he said about wages was that he proposes to "stabilize" them himself.

His program, therefore, cannot be analyzed yet. While his objective is unassurably right, the most important question of whether his program will work, or even whether it will be fair and firm, can be answered only after it is announced.

People will look very closely for the wording of the labor provisions especially to see whether he will leave enough loopholes through which unions can edge their particular stipends still higher.

Also the character of the case he will appear to do the job may be more revealing as to the real extent of his program, which is now being prematurely christened by the headline writers as a "wage-price freezing" device.

So far it sounds more like wage "stabilization" and price "freezing."

## Platform Of The People

## "Union Racket" Draws Fire

Editors Text News:  
In regard to your editorial in "The Home Front,"

Some scum iron and rubber have been collected. It could be multiplied many times. The public is not all to be deceived.

The President and his Cabinet have made so many conflicting statements, nobody has any confidence in anything they say. Don't trouble them with words. We don't get the scrap.

If we get the scrap, labor may go on a strike while it rusts. Labor is allowed to strike while sons, husbands, and fathers, sacrifice their lives without materials to defend themselves.

We who would like to do our bit to win the war, but are not in the army, are forced to pay from \$25 to \$100 to the union racket before we are allowed to work on defense jobs in most cases. In my opinion, the union racket has no place in democracy.

Yours truly,  
A. C. TRAGUE

Lenoir.

We Got Some Good Art Out of It, Anyhow

Editor, Text News:  
Now that the production "Jungle, Jungle, Jungle," which was pro-

duced by the Victory Belles, is over, may I on behalf of the Belles thank you and your fine paper for the splendid co-operation. Whatever success this production might have been was due to the great part you played.

Again may I thank you for your splendid co-operation.

Sincerely yours,  
L. H. HIGHTFOLD,  
Executive Secretary,  
Merchants Association, Inc., Charlotte.

She—Kerchoo!—Is Back—Kerchoo!—Now

Editors, Text News:  
For three days now I've missed Miss Dorothy Knox's column. What's wrong? Her writing is one of your best features. I trust her absence is only temporary.

Very truly yours,  
WOODS DARGAN,

Sept. 7,  
Burlington, N. C.

(Note: Hay-never has Miss Knox down, has let her up—Editors, Text News.)

The Lights Are Going Out  
The New York Times  
The senior watchman of the American shore has done his duty. Boston Light went dark Monday night, not to shine again till the war is over. First lighthouse of this country, presumably on this continent, it was set up on Little Brewster Island at the entrance of Boston Harbor in 1716. It has burned from the second year of the reign of George IV

## Easy. Boys Action Vs. Rights

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON  
It would be most unfortunate for the war effort if Congress and President Roosevelt fell into another bitter controversy like the one over the Supreme Court. No good and much harm would result.

Naturally many members of Congress feel that Mr. Roosevelt is pointing a pistol at them—to use the frequent description on Capitol Hill—and it is natural that they should resent it.

Yet what do we need most? An argument over who has what power? Or action to lead the war economy under control?

What do we need most, an argument over constitutional powers, or a drastic tax bill? Speeches? Or constructive action?

What can be gained by an argument as to who is wrong, who started it, who didn't do what he should have done?

People want this war fought hard and efficiently to the earliest possible victory. The sweep of public support behind Kaiser arises from that sentiment. The complaint at the sluggish bureaucracy here arises from that sentiment. Congress arises from that sentiment. We are in a fight for our lives—it is either us or the Axis. Our instinct for survival is aroused. It is the most elemental instinct of an individual and a nation.

In such a time there is little patience with argument. Words become secondary. Theories of government become secondary. Results take precedence.

Guessing as an observer, I believe that if a showdown came between a Congress that was not acting and a President who wanted to act, the majority sentiment of the country would back the President who wanted to act. I would certainly want to take my stand on that side.

But to permit such an issue to develop would be a grave disservice to our form of government. Only by a gross lack of self-restraint and by distorted judgment could Congress allow such an issue to arise.

This reminds me of the situation in which the press of the country is placed by the war. We agree to restrain our criticism. We agree not to print certain information that might be of value to the enemy. But the Constitution guarantees freedom of the press. Suppose the newspapers tried to take cover under that guarantee to print military information that might help the enemy. We would have the Constitution on our side. But how long do you think the people of the country would tolerate such things? The Constitution and the Constitution, a way would be found to stop it mighty quick and the country would approve.

Newspapers know that it would jeopardize American lives and aid in bringing about our own defeat to exercise their full constitutional rights. It doesn't make sense and every newspaper man knows it. So we agree to the voluntary censorship. There is a better chance of retaining freedom of the press in that way than in trying to stand on constitutional rights that have no reality in the midst of a war because they menace our national survival.

The same goes for Congress. Dictators in Europe sprouted out of the decayed ruins of parliamentary government. They had the capacity to act. Political parties and factions stood upon their constitutional rights until they had wrecked their countries. Thus far we have been more practical.

Theorists and doctrinaires will try to whip up an issue between Congress and the President. Some practical politicians will try to do it for political reasons. Realists will stick to the main fact, which is that the war must be won, and they won't allow that vital purpose to be frustrated by legalistic arguments.

We have been a realistic people. When the Electoral College proved to be an unrealistic device, we just let it stand there and rode around it. We got direct election of Presidents in fact and retained the Electoral College in theory. And the attempt to blow up a big argument between Congress and the President will break like the hard rock of American realism. If we haven't suddenly run out of common sense.

Reading, In This Case, Makes An Exact Man  
Burlington College item Morganton News-Herald:  
A correction, please! On the write up of my birthday that appeared in some of the papers I wish to state that in some way my daughter, Miss J. O. Triplett, was just let it standing there and rode around it. We got direct election of Presidents in fact and retained the Electoral College in theory. And the attempt to blow up a big argument between Congress and the President will break like the hard rock of American realism. If we haven't suddenly run out of common sense.

It Ain't No Runing Clock  
David Records  
Seems like the clock in the Mockville temple of Justice has gone New Dealish. You can't depend on it. When it runs it is either too fast or too slow.

Coolidge Wasn't First  
The Columbia State  
IN years to come Mr. Coolidge will probably be best remembered for his "I do not choose to run." But, expressive though the terse statement be of the New Englander's paucity of words, he was not, it turns out, the first in politics to use "I do not choose."

On January 1, 1783, the following letter was written by a South Carolina refugee, a seat in the Continental Congress, to the Honorable Speaker of the House of Representatives.

I am elected a member of the House of Representatives for the year of 1783. I am not of Choice to Qualify would be the wish of the House to decline.

I am,  
Honorable Sir,  
Yr. Most Obedt Servt,  
CHARLES DUFONT.

Side Glances



"I thought I'd bring my publicity idea direct to you—how about announcing raises for all the older employees so they can buy more war bonds?"