

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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Our Spirit

It May Be Good, But It Is Not Enough For Security

Raymond Clapper, studying the comments of Count Sforza, the Italian friend of freedom, sees as most important that he does not favor a fixed schedule, a certain plan, for the future. The Count, dealing perhaps in fancy, declares that the will is the important thing. The spirit of a nation or a people will carry them through. Thus, Americans should not fret over having definite post-war plans for themselves and the world. If the heart is in the right place, those plans will take care of themselves. If that is true, it sets a record for history.

The people of the United States, especially the boys who have fought in France, thought that participation in a world alliance might save the peace. They did not want to jump the ships they had built, and tear down the Army. But a clique of Senators did not agree with the people. They did not feel themselves bound by the spirit and will of the nation. They sabotaged the peace, and there are those like them in the Senate today—perhaps not so many, but enough to endanger us.

Yes, if a people be seized by the proper spirit, they can move mountains, and change the course of destiny. But if those who lead them are not swayed by that spirit in the crisis, then good causes are to be lost. It is a monotonous story of history. The true tragedy is not that the people are betrayed, but that they suffer the betrayal in silence, almost unknowing. They turn, soon, to the everyday affairs of their lives, as Americans did in 1919, and forget the great principles that were easily seized again by some strutting Caesar who promised them a golden age. The spirit of the people is of vast importance, and without it no leadership could function. But, of itself, it is often nothing. It will be there in the years after war, if we leave our plans to chance.

For a sandwich on a dark day, there's the Wilhelmstrasse special—a rug between two rugs.

Little Victory

At Least, Now, Employers May Still Speak With Employees

It is gratifying to know, on the word of the Supreme Court, that the American right of free speech still includes the right of an employer to advise his employees on the joining of a labor union. That much, at least, is left. The War Labor Board, in its customary hard-handed fashion, had ruled that no employer had the right to speak to an employee on the matter of union membership. Even so "liberal" a Supreme Court as now exists could not understand. If that was a weapon for defense of freedom, that decision, then, the New Deal Labor policy will never improve, and the future is without hope. The time comes when Franklin Roosevelt must get his affairs in line for a close inspection by the people of the United States. He has given them revolutionary gains, but they will seem a part of the background, of the past. He has given superb war leadership, and shown the way to the accomplishment of miracles. But that issue is now to be a secondary one, in November of '44.

The examination will be conducted along such lines as this War Labor Board decision opens. The people who have elected the New Deal and kept it in power now see the line of demarcation between the winning of freedom and the complete regimentation of society and business. Not even the little people, the honest laborers who make up American Labor, will be in sympathy with the WLB directive that no employer should speak to his employees regarding union membership. Some would not involve too much throttling at victims. There should be a seat of power, yes, but no tyranny. It is to be refused to honor the WLB's

From that decision the President should be able to see a line of action for himself, next Fall. He should remember this case, and the simple fact that registration and restrictions are not for Americans. Not now.

Mr. Willkie

He Must Buck History if He Gets the Nomination

Wendell L. Willkie's speech at St. Louis last week on the foreign and domestic problems facing the United States amounted to an unofficial announcement that his bid is in the ring again. He must be considered the leading active candidate at the present time for the Republican presidential nomination. Governor Dewey leads him in most polls, but Dewey has said several times that he is not a candidate. Former Governor Landon and General MacArthur must let others act for them while they are in the armed forces, Senator Taft is supporting Governor Bricker of Ohio, Senator Vandenberg is at present out of the picture, Governor Warren of California has not declared himself.

But if Mr. Willkie is the leading candidate at present in the public mind, he is by no means the favorite of the professional Republican politicians. Most of them still resent the maneuvers by which a stampede for Willkie was organized at the Republican National Convention in 1940 and they consider his disregard of them during the 1940 campaign. The Middle West contingent seems in particular to be hostile to Mr. Willkie's campaign for a full collaborationist policy in the United States after the war. If Willkie is nominated again, it will be despite, not because of, the sentiment of the bosses.

Governor Landon was acceptable enough to the state political machines in 1936 because his political manager was John D. M. Hamilton, popular among the political leaders. Governor Roosevelt was acceptable to the bosses in 1932 through his manager, James A. Farley, one of the boys. The same thing was true in 1920 when Theodore Roosevelt, whose manager was Harry M. Daugherty.

In recent American political history a defeated Presidential candidate has seldom tried actively for the nomination again. That was the fate of Landon after 1920, Hoover after 1932, Smith after 1928, the last his name being used in 1932 only to head off Roosevelt, Davis after 1924, Cox after 1928, Hughes after 1916, Taft after 1912. However, Theodore Roosevelt, had he not died in 1919, would probably have been the Republican candidate again in 1920, despite his defeat as a third party candidate in 1912. The Republicans have never renominated a defeated candidate.

Running Wild

Lindsay Warren Frightened By War Department Methods

Comptroller General Lindsay Warren, who is not a man to shy at his own shadow, is boiling in a fine rage over the state of war-time finance in Washington. He accuses the entire War Department of a form of treason, of committing all sorts of ridiculous sins in babying contractors and industrialists. He calls for the immediate paying for liquor for 41 hours per day's work for face teeth, for transporting a dog. And, beyond all those little items, he charges that the maze of red tape is successfully hiding a great deal of fraud—at least by inference.

Regulations are so numerous and conflicting, he says, that no one gives them a thought, except for hiding behind. There is virtually no accounting, he charges, and there is no desire to do so for accounting or auditing. His responsibility as Comptroller General cannot be fulfilled so long as such conditions exist. He wants some new power to help him control the lawless practice of winning and dining of War Department officials by contractors and subsequent approval of loans for conversion into civilian production. He wants, in short, power to stop a small army of contractors from milking the Government.

He is not likely, in these times, to get a sympathetic ear in Washington. The mushroom growth of a Federal agencies under pressure to spend has opened a wide gap between spending and accounting, and a great deal of irregular procedure is inevitable. It is to be hoped that Mr. Warren will be able to get his message across.

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON
SECRETARY HULL might have got some interesting pointers for his Moscow trip from Cuban Ambassador, only Latin American diplomat who has met Stalin.

Brilliant Senator Connors is both Cuban ambassador to the U. S. A. and Cuban Minister to Soviet Russia. He came back from a visit to the Soviet capital during which he presented his credentials to Foreign Minister Molotov, and expressed the belief that he might also call upon Stalin. Knowing that Stalin was one of the busiest men in the world, however, Connors did not press the point and actually did not expect to see him.

So he almost fell out of his ballet set one night when someone tapped him on the shoulder and told him that the Russian would see him in the morning. He was playing a practical joke. However, he was told that a motor would call for him at the theater in five minutes, and the diplomat, also present at the ballet, who told him that the man who had tapped him on the shoulder was the Russian chief of protocol, so he had better be ready.

It was May, but zero weather in Moscow. However, Ambassador Connors did not mind it cold in the Kremlin. (Churchill wore a super-suit when he called on Stalin, and Mrs. Hull has been worrying on behalf of her husband about the cold in the city. Only two officers guarded Stalin. One officer met the Cuban at the entrance of the building and escorted him to Stalin's office. There he was met by another officer who took him the rest of the way. There was no pomp or ceremony.)

Genial Joe

Stalin himself was not fierce, but kindly and genial. His eyes, according to Ambassador Connors are deep and penetrating, but with wrinkles of humor in the corners. The Soviet Premier seemed surprised about his labor laws and its economic questions. However, he was not familiar with Cuban-U. S. relations and seemed to think that Cuba was still politically dependent on the U. S. A. The Ambassador explained that the Platt Amendment had been abrogated and Cuba now enjoyed complete freedom.

Stalin also remarked that there was one American country, Argentina, which still co-operated with the Axis and suggested that it was about time the United States took Argentina in tow and forced it to join up with the Allies. He was quite positive about this, and seemed definitely under the impression that the United States had complete control of the entire American continent.

Ambassador Connors explained that not only was Argentina distant from the United States but that the U. S. A. took pains to respect the independence of Latin American states. The inter-

view lasted about 45 minutes. Connors told Stalin that he would help him help Stalin. One thing he noted was Stalin's clothes. Although simply cut they were of excellent quality.

Capital Chaff

Capt. Ralph Ingersoll, drafted away from his editorship of the newspaper, PM, was detailed by the Army to help the War Training Section on one of their war-zone trips. It is reported that Ingersoll is being guarded by the War Department as to who he might see. The Senators, however, are not. Economic Stabilizer Vinson says that although Senator Byrd of Virginia, largest apple-grower in the world, may see him, he is not a high price for apples. Byrd said the price increase would not affect him much one way or the other. Byrd said his apples were a specialized product, wrapped in paper and packed for the fresh market. . . . Alabama's Frank Boykin has a secret accomplishment in addition to his record as a courageous Congressman. He can ride on the radiator of a car going 40 miles an hour and shoot doves. And he has 'em. . . . Gov. Matt Nease of West Virginia, former U. S. Senator, will run for the House of Representatives in the 1st West Virginia Congressional district. It was as a Congressman that Nease began his long career in public life.

Wire-Tapping

If all the dictaphone records taken by the Government, both by tapping telephones and inter-office communications, were put in one pile they would probably provide enough wax to supply all the radio stations of the nation for a year. It has now got so that every official talking over the phone figures that his words are being taken down on a record either in the office of the man he is talking to or by an outside "intelligence" agency.

Most prolific wire-tappers are the Army and Navy. But the other day R. S. Dean, assistant director of the Bureau of Mines, ran across a new wrinkle during an argument he had with L. Col. E. F. Jaffe, assistant to WPA's Charles E. Wilson. The Bureau of Mines favored the production of electrolytic manganese by the American Alloys and Chemicals Corp., at Oakland, Calif., but the War Production Board turned the project down.

When the Bureau of Mines took exception to WPA's statement, Col. Jaffe had the audacity to admit that he had taken a dictaphone record of everything the Bureau of Mines said over the phone. Writing to Assistant Director Dean of Jaffe's sale, you desire to listen to the transcription of the verbatim conversation, I will make arrangements so that you may do so.

To this Director Dean holly wrote back: "I am interested to know that the office of the Executive Vice Chairman of the War Production Board has gone in for the use of the dictaphone without the common courtesy of advising the person who is called upon that he is speaking for the record."

"Somedimes I Vonder Voi I Eever Saw In You!"

By Dorman Smith



A Way And A Will

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON
PERHAPS our trouble is that we have grown too sophisticated to have around us that old office motto: "It can be done." Once in a while I see in an article in the current issue of Foreign Affairs, the military men to exact blueprint of the future. But we don't have that spirit about the job we can do after the war. We don't have it about what America can do after the war, or what the nations together can do after the war.

It was pounded into us about war production and the mobilizing of an army and because those things had to be done at once, they were done. In this way we have done so many things that could not be done. One might suppose we were acquiring the habit. But the tendency is to view the prospect after the war with depressed spirit and with the conviction that the worst is bound to happen.

You can talk about the challenging opportunity that postwar commercial aviation offers for enterprise all over the world. But by the time one has gone through two hours of table conversation with two or three students in the field, and added up the objections and difficulties raised, they have demonstrated that nothing can be done. By supposing that the war will happen, and that everyone will use his rights and power to make as much trouble as possible, you can prove that nothing will work.

If every stockholder in any corporation used his power to insist upon his own ideas, no management could function. Any enterprise could be paralyzed if everyone was as picknickered and as shortighted regarding his interest as we so often assume that nations will be in dealing with each other. No nation could stay open 24 hours if every depositor exercised in full his right of withdrawal.

But life is not paralyzed because people do find ways of working together. Count Sforza, the pre-Fascist Italian, makes some wise observations in an article in the current issue of Foreign Affairs. He insists that the moral will, the moral will, or as we say in America, where there's a will there's a way.

That attitude is needed now because we are in a period of some disillusion. The five Senators have raised minor questions which have set off a whole train of questioning. British newspapers are beginning to keep back at American criticism. They have been under voluntary restraint at the earnest solicitation of Churchill who has wanted nothing said that would irritate Anglo-American relations.

Deeper than that, some of our experts and some of the British experts show signs of despair, of lacking the hard alternative line. They are lacking the little confidence in those solutions they do advance. On the other hand, you find technical negotiators here and there who believe that each step taken is gain, that we are having to learn slowly, and in the hard way, but that if enough steps are taken, however small each may be, we shall make progress. The Chinese proverb is that the long journey begins with the first step.

Wendell Willkie, in his St. Louis speech, emphasized the hard alternative line. He rejected the course of expansion and world collaboration, and try to lock ourselves in. Our debt of 200 billion dollars at the end of the war, plus soldier rehabilitation, the cost of Government, and the staggering cost of keeping both the Pacific and Atlantic as American lakes—which is what a policy of isolation means—could be carried only by the severest regimentation and interference.

Survive with serious handicaps, disabilities in this war. . . . James L. Neumann, former U. S. Ambassador to the Disabled American Veterans.

Japanese planes are improving but are not improving as fast as our own. . . . Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau Jr.

Side Glances



"Make yourself comfortable—the head of the firm will be with you shortly! He's outside running the mimeograph machine at the moment!"

Everyday Counselor

MacArthur Speaks

By Rev. Herbert Spough

MORE good news from the battle front: "MacArthur stages greatest air victory of entire Pacific war," headlines the speaking of the destruction of the huge Japanese Rabaul base. Speaking of the battle, the picturesque and beloved General said, "It was a crushing and decided defeat for the enemy at a most vital point. Once more surprise was predominant. Rabaul has been the focus and very hub of the enemy's main advanced air effort. I think we have broken its back."

"Almighty God blessed our arms."

It is interesting to read the public statements of this great general, how he consistently takes Almighty God into his plans. Respectably we have given attention to this in this column.

Only the week before Gen. Eisenhower commenting upon the observance of National Bible Week, Oct. 11-17, said:

"It is truly gratifying to know that people of the United States are setting apart a week to honor the Word which is our 'daily bread' and the 'Word of God.'"

"While the utterances of God as recorded in the Bible are ever the need of mankind, it is in our day, particularly in this present war, with its losses of humanity and morality, that their essential presence is felt."

"On this front I am happy to report, this thought is foremost among our men. Our objective is total victory, not just a victory of arms, but victory also for America's ideals. And, with the help of God in this fight for right, which help our men ever and devotedly seeking, this victory is assured."

Such utterances coming from two of America's top ranking generals should prove heartening to those who feel that Christian faith is being crowded out by the brutalities and coarsening effects of total war.

The man or woman working long hours at a routine job, the home body may not appreciate that. But those out yonder staring death in the face learn a new appreciation of the spiritual life, and a new acquaintance with the "God of our Fathers."

Another interesting and encouraging sign is that newspapers have told of these statements from front display. A year ago it is doubtful if they would have done this.

For personal reply address The Everyday Counselor, The Little Church On The Lane, 1242 Meridian Lane, Charlotte 4, N. C., enclosing a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

What Ho!

The War's Real

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK
Senator Butler of Nebraska proposes to "investigate" lend-lease. Just lend-lease? Or by itself? Does the Senator mean to pick lend-lease out of the war, like an eye from a head, so that he can hold it in his hand and look it over? But does lend-lease have any meaning standing by itself, extracted from the war which is its setting and its occasion?

We sent shipments of General Sherman tanks to the British in Egypt last Fall, and only just in time. These were lend-lease transactions. Senator Butler wants to investigate all lend-lease transactions. Can he investigate these particular lend-lease transactions without also investigating El Alamein and Rommel's 1,000-mile flight across Africa, and the saving of the Mediterranean?

Or is he going to use his patent little giant microscope, to cut his favorite topic out from all the rest, and "investigate" lend-lease without investigating Africa, Rommel, the Mediterranean and the world?

I have heard of a chicken heart pulled out of a bird's beating breast and kept alive for years, but even that is not so remarkable an operation as separating lend-lease from the war.

On the same spirit, we might propose an investigation of the mystery activities of our armed forces over the last several years. What have they been up to, anyway? They have been taking millions of men out of their homes and jobs, and making them open and eat biscuits. What goes on here? Why all this marching up and down and dressing in little brown suits? It doesn't make any sense. And it certainly doesn't, if you "investigate" it all by itself.

It is in precisely this bizarre spirit, however, that Mr. Butler urges his investigation of lend-lease. He calls it "the most colorful, dole of all time."

So we have a case of controversy, he resolutely refuses to let you mention the war.

And so lend-lease is to be investigated like an open account between a department store and a customer. Mr. Butler doesn't want to know anything about what the customer did with the goods. "He says it has to be a case of dollars for dollars, and he doesn't care anything about the ultimate use of the merchandise."

But he has to care, whether he wants to or not. We have certain policies. We are trying to carry them out. One of our policies (thoroughly endorsed by the same Mr. Butler) is to reduce potential loss of American life by arming our Allies. Another of our policies is to reduce the drain of American manpower by equipping foreign troops, and the severe, hard, thousandth in addition, also exercise a complete dollar-for-dollar claim. Come, we do not care what use the customer makes of the merchandise. We are not like the bull. We are not quite so unconcerned as a Bear. But we are like Mr. Butler, we are like him.

We adopted lend-lease in view of these military and political considerations, and now it is proposed to investigate lend-lease without them. We are to forget why we passed the act in shooting us on how it is working.

And that is the major logical flaw in all the current wild attacks on lend-lease. It is a probe into the eye, pulled out of the head, and devil take the hind. We adopted lend-lease as a salute to history, to life and live for money. Now we want to change our story and pose as innocent little merchants, whose customers have turned out to be the bad boys.

Come, we know the world's credit rating when we entered into this deal. And we haven't been as bad traders. We bought live