

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

Published Every Evening Except Sunday By The News Publishing Company, Inc.

W. C. Dowd, Jr., President
Burke Davis, Editor
Mrs. Dowd Jones, Secretary
and General Manager
Leah J. R. Dowd, DSNK, Vice-President and Editor, on leave for the duration
W. C. Dowd, 1863-1927

The daily edition of The Charlotte News was established 1888. The Evening Chronicle (established 1889) was purchased by and consolidated with the Charlotte News May 8, 1916.

The News desires to be notified promptly of errors in any of its reports that proper correction may be made at once.

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Entered 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, \$7 cents. By mail: One month, \$7; three months, \$20; six months, \$35; one year, \$60.00.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1943

The Last Days

Pressure From Two Sides Brings Germany Near End

In these days the progress of the war rushes on toward conclusion. In Italy, fierce fighting spills blood as the Allied armies push slowly up the peninsula. The Germans must soon make their big stand, perhaps somewhere above Rome. After that, there will be little hope for them. Air bases, moving slowly within shorter range, will soon endanger every industrial plant in German hands. Already, the big flights have found their way into the deepest corners. Henceforth, the flow of German war goods will be a game of trickery against the bombers. The pinch begins to come, and the advance in Italy is making it more difficult for the enemy by the day.

To the East, cataclysmic events continue to pile up, in each new clash between Russian and German. The advance into the Crimea makes dismal news in Germany, for the fate of a great Army of occupation is now in doubt—only a miracle can save it if the Red onslaught continues. It has now become a question of where the German stand will come in Russia. The so-called line of the Dnieper does not hold, and at key points the Nazis flee, suffering heavy casualties.

The planes and tanks and men they withdraw from Russia, carefully playing one front against another, are now being severely tested. If Joseph Stalin's armies now have reserve power at hand for further great drives before snow flies, the Germans may well be forced to leave most of the territory to the Russians. A general retreat, an order of the day for the German troops for months, will continue. The end is not in sight in Italy or in Russia.

There is the one consolation left to the enemy: It does not appear that the Allies will strike on any land front this year. If the gathering power is withheld until Spring, then the Germans may believe in their ability to rally their strength to parry the blows. That, of course, is a vain hope. Not all the concentration and withdrawal possible can save Hitler's Europe now—and by the coming of Spring, even if there are no Winter land attacks, the great bombers will have made rubble of the German homeland. Daily, as the year passes, the German situation grows darker. Daily, the Allied potential grows greater.

As the Fifth and Eighth Armies clear a way for the bombers in Italy and put the great planes in easy striking distance, and as the Russian armies advance all along the Eastern front, the day of victory comes closer. To be sure, the shrinking of the lines favors the army of the defensive, up to a point. But shrinkage also means the concentration of a target area for the great clouds of Allied planes. As Winter approaches, so does the last season of the life of the Nazi enemy.

Von Falkenhorst, commander-in-chief in Norway, is said to be out of favor with Hitler. As yet, however, no data has been set for his heart trouble.

Moonshine

There's More And More Of It In The South

We're still the champions, citizens. And that has nothing to do with literacy, riches, bellies, or low income levels. In the South, moonshiners are still supreme. Try as they will to North and West, the manufacturers of illicit liquor can't catch up. The figures are all in their favor, and they may be trusted. They're from the Treasury Department.

Judging only by the stills which were found and seized during the months of September, one may know the distribution of the necessity of life in the South is on the increase—and that the sugar shortage has not been able to overcome a shortage of legal liquor. In the covers, swamps and pine woods, the moonshiner is cooking. Last month a total of 140 stills were seized in Maryland, North Carolina, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. That is quite an increase over September of '42, when only 88 were seized.

And the deeper into the South the Treasury agents went, the better business they found.

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON
If ever Wendell Willkie walked into a "lion's den," it was when he addressed 100 GOP Congressmen the other night. The majority, including the 46 GOP "freebirds" who attended the meeting, greeted with hostility. Not a few came with the intentions of jeering, but almost to a man, they stayed to cheer. Willkie opened the off-the-record meeting by telling his listeners that a grass-roots canvass of the nation had convinced him he could have the Republican nomination again in 1944 if he wanted it. He noted this as a fact, with no seeming conceit, but with a disarming frankness that charmed the GOP politicians instead of antagonizing them.

"However, I will tell you very frankly," he continued, "unless the party has the kind of platform that will show us a concrete policy, that the United States can no longer live as a nation isolated from the rest of the world. I will not accept the nomination." He added that if he is to be the 1944 nominee, the platform must clearly call for U. S. collaboration with other nations to assure the future peace of the world. On domestic issues, he stated that there will be no return to reactionary, anti-labor policies of former GOP administrations if he is to lead the party.

"I understand there are a number of men here who want to ask me some embarrassing questions," Willkie declared after he had finished his opening statement. "Well, gentlemen, the only way you can embarrass me is by failing to ask these questions. I know what some of you have on your minds."

He then proceeded to inform his slightly baffled audience that certain members of the GOP Missouri delegation who were present had had several questions "planted" on them by Edgar Quincy, St. Louis munitions maker and a leading GOP financial "angel."

"Planted" Question
"One of the questions Mr. Quincy has requested that I be asked is—Will I support whoever is nominated by the party, if I do not wish myself?" Willkie asserted, glancing judiciously from right to left. His listeners turned questioning eyes on the Missouri Congressman present, including the acting chairman of the meeting, Representative Vt. Arnold of Kirksville. Suddenly, freshman Congressman Louis E. Miller of St. Louis jumped to his feet.

"No one told me to ask you any questions," shouted Miller.

By this time the meeting was on the verge of an uproar, but Willkie, unflustered, turned to Representative Arnold.

"How about you, Mr. Arnold? Weren't you requested to ask me that question?"

"Yes, I'll have to admit that I was," replied Arnold with a sheepish grin.

There was a burst of laughter, but Willkie didn't join in it. In fighting tone, he continued: "Yes, and I can name some others here who were asked to put the same question to me. But I'll save you the trouble by answering it."

"My answer is—of course not. Of course, I will not support anyone who in my opinion lacks the right man to lead the Republican Party. I would not support Col. McCormick of the Chicago Tribune,

for instance, if he was nominated, or Representative Ham Fish, or anyone else like them."
The GOP leader was cheered and applauded frequently during this meeting, but this touched off the biggest ovation of all for an audience which numbered a hefty quota of isolationists. It was a real spectacle. But Willkie went through it as he was equally frank in replying to other questions, including his attitude on Soviet Russia.

Attitude On Russia
"I am opposed to all foreign 'lams' for the reason that they deny liberty to the people living under them. I could never be for any system that would tolerate this. However, I want to see this restriction with regard to Soviet Russia, and I believe I know a little about it, having traveled there and met Joseph Stalin. No realist who is honest with himself can deny that the Russian system has been effective."

Willkie described the Russian people as honest and hard-working, but at the same time "the most unscrupulous people I have ever met." Stalin, he said, did not talk in the picturesque, well-rounded sentences historians of great men like to record, but that he was "direct and to the point and definite in his answers, when he chose to answer at all. Willkie said he preferred not to answer at all. The Commander-in-Chief, too much while the country was at war. However, he took a point during the 1940-41 period and Churchill for not fulfilling their promise to Stalin of a Second Front in Western Europe. This promise definitely had been made, he declared, but had not been kept.

All of this was behind closed doors. When the meeting was over, Willkie's collar was rumpled and his mop of hair disheveled, as after one of his 1940 political speeches, but his forthrightness had won him a lot of new GOP friends on Capitol Hill. As one former isolationist foe remarked:
"You have to hand it to the guy. He has a lot of guts. If he had been as definite in his political speeches during the '32 campaign as he was tonight, he would have won the election."

Pencil-Pushers
When you see young men doing desk jobs for the Army or Navy, don't always blame it on them. Thousands are itching to get into active duty but are kept as pencil-pushing jobs which they hate. Take the case of Joseph T. Bailey, employed in the machinery section of the planning division, Charleston Navy Yard. He wrote to his chief:
"I would like a release from the Navy Yard. I came here as a Junior mechanical engineer, March 29, 1942, and as yet I have done nothing a grammar school kid could not do. From the day I came here I have felt like the lowest job of draft dodger, and the feeling grows each day. He asked that the Navy Yard is overcrowded with civilian engineers who are being used for paper-cutters, typist assistants, and office boys 20 or more times their value. He has 100 per cent of their time is spent loafing."

Bailey promptly learned that it doesn't pay to express your opinions against the Navy. Capt. A. M. Penn, manager of the industrial department of the Navy Yard, promptly told him:
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We'll Just Have To Be Patient

—By Do-man Smith



On World Peace

Let's Be More Specific

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON
STRENGTHENING chances should be made in the Senate on foreign policy. As reported out by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee it is a double-barreled resolution. Proof of that is simple. The Connally text was approved by Senators of such diverse views as Pepper, Green, Vandenberg, Bennett Clark and Nye. Any statement of collaboration upon which Claude Pepper and Gerald Nye agree is too vague to have any practical meaning as a guide to the Senate's views on American foreign policy. Also the statement is not to be an inflexible guide to the Senate's attitude, though it has no purpose.

American security will be greater through collaboration than by trying to square the round on Allies. It is not a question of opposing the Connally resolution but of trying to make it more specific. A number of Senators, including the Ball group and some members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee itself such as Pepper and Green, are ready to vote for the Connally resolution and seek only to make more clear its intended meaning.

"They would give specifically an international organization, 'with power, including military force' to suppress aggression and preserve peace.

"That language would permit either an actual international military force such as Senator Ball favors, the more commonly favored use of military sanctions but with national armies, navies and air forces remaining as at present. The language there is open, and frankly so. Sentiment in this country and presumably in others, and all thinking inside the Government is in the direction of continuing the kind of combined staff of co-operation that we have none, rather than for an internationalized force.

If anyone sincerely believes in what the Connally resolution professes to favor, and approves it without mental reservations, then he can have no logical objection to using more specific words.

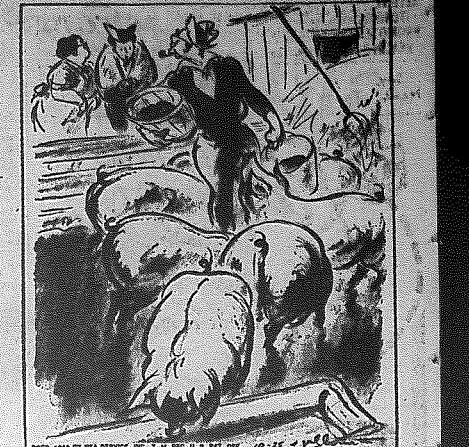
"We can't fix on details now. It is a matter of voting logic and good faith now, leaving many questions open.

The Senate vote voted down the League of Nations, rejected the plea of the Republican Presidents to join the World Court. Therefore, we can naturally expect our Allies to wonder whether we will stand by the League of Nations and the World Court.

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Side Glances



"You'd better put them out on a diet or something or they'll weigh so many points they'll scare off the butcher's customers!"

Everyday Counselor

God Must Rule

By Rev. Herbert Spough

"No free government can survive without the props of religion and morality," declared Gen. George Washington, the first President of this Republic. Living in the days when the foundations of our American way of life was being laid he spoke with prophetic voice. No nation in the history of the world has survived which disregarded the laws of Almighty God.

There are heartening signs throughout the Allied Nations that we are commencing to realize this. The sale of the Bible has reached unprecedented proportions in both England and the United States. Recent reports from London tell us that there is an acute shortage of Bibles in England; that the reserve stocks of publishers have been depleted. Our men in uniform are turning to the Book of books. Our generals are recommending it. One of the greatest British Generals is known as "Bible Reading Montgomery."

Yule King Josiah, of old who re-discovered the Word of God tucked back in a plunder room of the temple; so we are re-discovering the Book of books amid rubble of a collapsing materialism.

Superior Court Justice William Hobbs in a recent address said, "Morals is based upon morals. If our civilization is to survive we must give more support to those institutions which promote morals, the Law, the School, the Church." He might have mentioned another Christian institution, the Lord's Day. Under the stress of war time, this Christian institution is becoming more secularized. It is becoming a day of secular recreation.

Recreation is important but we need to remember the solemn words reminding us that man is more than a physical being. "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word which proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

The Christian Sabbath was given to us for restoration of the soul as well as for bodily rest. We dare not neglect either. The meaning life of drunkenness staggers us. Our chief hope rests in the fact that our country is being converted into a manufacturing munitions. Recently the chairman of a parliamentary observed that during his office of 40 years he had prepared many men for execution, that Hauser was connected with every case.

It is to be hoped that as we turn to the Word of God we will dedicate ourselves to a new obedience to His laws.

For personal reply request The Everyday Counselor, The Little Church On The Lane, 522 Moravian Lane, Charlotte 4, N. C., enclosing a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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A Policy?

Second Front

By Samuel Grafton

THERE is some ground for worry that while American internationalists are agreeing with each other on the question of a second front, the Moscow map may still on the question of the second front. The London Evening Standard asked me to write a thing for it on what Americans expect from the second front. I have been clear in my mind that the Russian is asking for a second front, I would say that their feeling about it is perhaps too theoretical, too diffuse, too general.

They want an understanding with Russia. They have been telling each other that America must live with Russia, that the Russians are, after all, very different from those inhuman Communists that Russia is rearing. It is not really living with Communism behind and becoming capitalist and nationalist. No, Americans are prepared for a broad, theoretical agreement, a general understanding, but the fact that the capitalist countries and Russia have agreed to work together, to live and let live.

Americans are not prepared, I think, to discover that Russia is relatively unprepared, at the moment, with these broader questions, that Russia is not prepared in the opening of a second front. That will be a real shocker to American opinion, should it turn out to be the case. The best of American opinion has, in a very simple way, been concerned with the question of a second front. It has not taken up the collateral question of what we must do to make Russia like us. That is new territory for us, wild, unfamiliar and unexplored. Our first view of it may be startling indeed.

There is a tendency here to shy away from the realities of the moment if I mean the realities of today, this week, this month and to escape to the future by embarking on long, airy discussions about world policy, peace, etc. This shows up in the Senate foreign policy resolutions which are so earnestly being pressed for passage as an aid to the Moscow conversations. As a result, the future will appear to a Russia demanding a second front this Winter, we have no certain knowledge.

Actually, America's internationalists do not know quite what to expect from the Moscow meeting. The thing is not in sharp focus. For one, we don't know what Mr. Hull is asking for, nor what Mr. Eden wants. We know what enigmatic Russia is asking for, and stand her policy. We have no firming requests for a second front. We understand her policy. We have no firming requests for a second front. We understand her policy. We have no firming requests for a second front. We understand her policy.

Thus there is a kind of vacuum into which the isolationists have moved with their request for bases in Siberia. They have made a certain headway in American opinion with that request, at least. It is a request, a kind of policy. Some of us would like to argue against this crude demand that Russia involve herself with Japan at the height of her amazing offensive west of the Dnieper; we should like to say that the Administration's policy toward Russia is much to be desired, but we do not know what it is doing.

So far, we have been supporting something wrapped in a sack, and tied with a strong cord, and we hope it is wonderful!

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Quote, Unquote

To date, save only in Russia, there has been no major combat. Stetly, magnificent as that victory was, was merely a reduction of an outpost.

At the latest, even so.

Today, because of the surrender of the Italian fleet, Japan can no longer threaten the West Indies.

ment, we decide that the war is over. We are just beginning the war.

Secretary Henry Morgenthau Jr.