

And Evening Chronicle
Published Every Afternoon Except Sundays
The News Publishing Company, Inc.

The daily edition of The Charlotte News was established in 1838. The Evening Chronicle (established 1893) was purchased by and consolidated with The Charlotte News in 1914.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
By carrier, 20 cents a week; one month, \$7 cents. By mail: one month, \$7; three months, \$20; six months, \$32; one year, \$10.50.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1943

Two Strikes

One Is In The Mines; One Is In The Senate

Well, let's see. The miners go out in wildcat strike and the hope of capacity coal production drops. Unauthorized, these walkouts are assailed as acts of treason against the good of the country.

Miners strike for higher wages, lower hours, better working conditions, in the familiar old way. Members of the Senate strike in what seems to us a far more dangerous way, rebelling against any "entangling alliances" for peace.

There are too many like Senator Tom Connally, as we have often walked before. This subject cannot be brought too often before the Senate.

Home-Made

Ordnance Plant Here Has A Fine Record In Battle

Charlotte seemed to plunge into the war, in the words of the Admiral Blaine, workers at the U. S. Rubber Co. ordnance plant, he said, were directly responsible for many a Jap plane and ship being under water today.

This brings war much closer to us at home. The tracing of local production from the U. S. Rubber plant to the shell-tipped rockets of fighting ships all across the world makes a graphic picture.

In the post-war period, this new plant is expected to add a great deal to the peace-time economy of the Charlotte National Carbon Company, which has just begun into production, this plant should bear a heavy and beneficial influence on the Charlotte of the future.

It remained for a help wanted advertisement in Waterloo (N. Y.) to put the thought in black and white: "Will you pay \$5 more than you are worth."

Secret Sources

Hirohito Has Heard That Things Aren't As They Seem

The Emperor Hirohito, son of the East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, is making speeches on the progress of the war. They're wonderful. It's a marvel, the way that follow gets information.

After almost two years of such official communications, in which only one or two minor setbacks have been admitted, the sacred person of the Emperor is placed before the Japanese Diet, which asks in solemn session (Hirohito) if he is not going well. In fact, he says, the situation stinks. It is "truly grave."

New Veterans

Youngsters Already Return From War—And Join Up

Already, the new veterans are with us. Of the four American Legion Posts in Mecklenburg, Hornet No. 9, the largest, reports more than 40 new members from this war. They have come back for varied reasons: wounds, honorable discharges, over-age.

Those who have returned to Charlotte thus far, we are told, have little to say about the war. They are likely feeling their way, or feel that theirs is not to speak, yet. It is sure that they will be followed by millions of others, all over America. And, as they come to the land that they love, it is to be expected they will assume direction of the organization.

WASHINGTON

RECENT weeks a rift has opened between the White House and the labor leaders. Both have been drifting away with more or less surreptitious during the coal strike.

Having both these delegates come to a head in the same direction, it may be expected that the real wage increase is given to the miners, the real men will be nothing bad; may call a general strike.

Meanwhile, there has been more grouting against the President among laborers than at any time in long years. Dave Robertson, president of the Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, has been saying privately that the President has let the railway workers down, that his men are so rebellious he will have to get wage increases for them if he wants to keep his job.

George Harrison, of the Railway Clerks, has been saying much the same thing. At the AFL convention recently he let loose a rip-roaring speech against the bungling of the railroad wage question.

Double-Talk

White House labor advisers fear that part of the railwaymen's riot resulted from the fact that the President told them one thing, while Judge Vinson ruled another. Back in mid-summer, when the special railway mediation board recommended a wage increase of 6 cents an hour for non-operating workers, they say the President told Brotherhood leaders that this increase was in the bag.

Then, after the Brotherhood bosses had gone back and promised their members the raise, Judge Vinson, whose job it is to prevent inflation, partially ruled otherwise. He ruled that the 6 cents must go chiefly to lower bracket workers, with upper bracket workers getting proportionately less.

Note: Labor advisers last week denied off the 48-hour week as the best way out of both the mining and railroad dilemmas. If the miners work 48 hours they get time-and-half-time for thirteen extra hours.

Railroad workers are not included in the Wage-Hour Act. When it was passed they didn't want it. So they don't get paid time-and-half-time until after they have worked and in some cases 50 hours.

By Drew Pearson

advisers last week suggested to the White House as the best way to head off both strikes and inflation.

Capital Clash

Fire breaks out the other day, the State Department members. After guards had applied the extinguisher to a burning box, they found it contained books in German. Before Leo Crowley took over Rubber Development Corp., a plan was approved to send U. S. newsmen on a tour of the Amazon.

A few years ago, Ed McGrady, labor adviser to the Undersecretary of War, was bundled into a taxi-cab by irate Elizabeth City, Tenn., businessmen and driven across the state line with the warning that if he ever came back, they would bury his bones up in the Tennessee hills.

Labor Doctor

The real meaning of the complaint is that the industry is not worried about paper work so much as it is worried about limitation on profits. Under Government control, prices are held down by the fact that sales are limited to war needs.

Back To Normal

Industry's eagerness to get back to peace-time operation is seen in the deluge of mail received by the Chemical Division of WPB.

Controls are so tight that no materials may be bought or sold without clearance with WPB, and in the course of getting clearance, the application must state a list of intimate facts about his business, including buying price, selling price, profit, and inventories.

After All, This Nursemaid Only Has Two Arms

By Dorman Smith



Post-War Aim

A Bargain For Oil

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON
WE HAVE the most practical reason for needing a stable world organization with power to prevent war. One of them is oil. We must look ahead for decades, and by the span of generations, as the world's oil supply is being run out.

In the United States we have 10 per cent of the world's oil. We are serving up 70 per cent of the world's production. The diagram is needed to show where that leads. Our oil people have been more farighted than our Government has been. They were lured by the search for profits and it has carried them far out into the world where as a Government we have ventured a look.

American companies have enormous holdings in the Middle East. We have a quarter share in Iraq oil. We have a half share in Kuwait, all of Bahrain oil and all of Saudi Arabia, which is a concession 244,000 square miles, leased by Standard of California and Texas Co. jointly. There is more American controlled oil in the Middle East, than we have in the United States.



Everyday Counselor

The Motive

By Rev. Herbert Spaulth

CHAPLAIN Howell M. Fory, United States Navy, who is credited with doing the phrase that inspired the song "Praise The Lord And Pass The Ammunition" recently composed a prayer poem to encourage the purchase of war bonds on the home front.

This question must find us thoughtful. Men home on furlough from the battle front who have offering their lives to defend the Christian way of life. Some of these same mothers and wives aren't raising a finger to support and strengthen the greatest institution serving their lives on the home front, the Church.

Of course, the fathers have their responsibility along with the mother. What truly terrifies me is the careless attitude of many a soldier's wife, whose husband is overseas. They apparently forget the law of retribution, the law of cause and effect, that what you sow as well as what you reap. They with many others should be forced to meet the question in Chaplain Fory's poem, "Am I worth dying for?" Indeed we all need to face that question honestly.

It is a sobering thought that some soldier "died for me," that I might not be enslaved by a foreign power, that I might continue enjoying the freedoms prevailing in this country, that I might continue living the American way of life.

If that thought is not sobering enough, think on the fact that God sent His Son into the world to die for you and for me. He "loved me and gave Himself for me." But for a moment consider himself worthy of such that the Son of God should die on the cross that you and I might be saved from spiritual death, pardoned and enjoy the freedoms of eternal life.

How grateful we should be that He who died for our sins, has for our sustenance, made His love an interest for us. All of us might be more worthy of the sacrifices made and being made for us.

For personal reply address The Everyday Counselor, The Little Church On The Lane, 324 Marston Lane, Charlotte 4, N. C., enclosing a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

World Police?

Wrong Number

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK
I'M afraid of the world police force idea. I think advocacy of it may come to be a reactionary position. Any flight from reality in necessity, any curtailing of our paper dolls, which are in real work to be done, is reactionary. Any pill that puts the people to sleep when they are real thinking to be done, is reactionary.

The world police force idea assumes that all the conflicts which will come up in this world when the war is ended are solvable, which we don't know if they are. It is the great adventure of our time to find out whether these conflicts are solvable.

It is not a plan for getting along with the world, for really getting along with the world. It is a plan for preventing an explosion in case we don't. But I don't think you can prevent explosions, if you have a sunpounder around and if fire is touched to it.

But it is still a plan that starts at the wrong end; it starts with the guns; it proposes to build the year around Christmas, and the greatest possible calamity. If that were true, there would never be any wars. The world is not quite so simple.

To these hundreds of millions the problem of the moment is not whether a scheme for perpetual peace can be carried out, or whether there must be another full year of cold death by day, and hot death from the sky at night. It is the question of whether the next three months, or whether the chance will be missed for another dirty decade. It is the question of whether the Italian peasant will have enough land to cultivate, or whether he will be sent back to his inadequate plot, with something called "peace" stuffed into his mouth as a pacifier, should he still be unemployed.