

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS



And Evening Chronicle

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TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 1943

## Not Harry

### Senator Byrd Shouldn't Be Considered for President

The other day we received a letter from a Mr. James M. Thomson, a Virginian who labels himself as a private citizen, working on his own hook. He wants to make Senator Harry Flood Byrd the next President of the United States. And we want to wish him the worst of luck, believing as we do that Senator Byrd is not fitted to become the successor to Franklin Roosevelt. But Mr. Thomson's recommendations must carry some weight, and should be heard:

In times of emergency a republic should exercise the right of grafting the best available man for its purpose. The nation did this when it drafted George Washington, a Virginian, as its first president. Jefferson, Madison and Monroe of Virginia suggested many of the traditional policies which have characterized the nation through to stability and greatness.

You are doubtless familiar with the independent, unselfish and non-partisan service which Senator Byrd has rendered during his two terms in the U. S. Senate. There he has made good on his earlier record and has remained true to the best tradition of public service. This independent service began almost in his boyhood in the Legislature of Virginia. As Virginia's Governor he displayed outstanding executive ability and a great talent for administrative organization and administration. It was the result that the Old Dominion's modern debt-free model of state government.

Much of that cannot be accepted as true value, for the fact that Virginia has grown so right past President in the past does not mean that Senator Byrd is another of the giants, and his long and honorable career of public service does not mean that he can move into the White House and carry on, directing the great flood which carries this greatest of nations toward its destiny.

He would come to distrust the political thinking of Senator Byrd. He did a good job, probing into the non-essential expenditures of the bureau. Too good. He came to believe, toward the end of the life which beset the nation could be popping a few hundred workers off the payroll, by suspending an ultra-valuable agency like NYA. We do not believe the agency of the country would trust the Senator with the gains made since the dark days of '33.

## The Women

### Now They'll Outnumber Men For the Very First Time

At the risk of becoming hopelessly entangled in confusion of statistics and Henderson, of which few of us can be certain under any circumstances, we approach a new trend in the division of the sexes in this America. The outlook for the future, for males, is bleak. On some helpless day this year (perhaps it has already happened because passed, perish the thought) American females will outnumber the males. The United States becomes, on that day, an old nation.

This, comrades, is something more than a national statistic; it is also a potential source of peril to us all. Now comes the time when suffrage alone may not suit, lady's whim. Perhaps, at last, outnumbers the male sex. She will strike for complete freedom. Perhaps, even, she will take over the outright control of the national destiny. And we mean to be in the open, and not within the secret corners of the home where she has long since been the big operator. We, sire, are in real danger.

In 1910, if you can bring yourselves to think of the golden days at such a time of crisis, the males outnumbered the females in this country by some three millions. But the ladies have been catching up at the rate of about 100,000 per year. By July 1, of this year, the population of the United States will be 130,000,000—a soaring new high. It will get that way because of the great rural births in the years of war. The birth rate for the nation is now 8,300 per day, and the death rate is only 3,850. Now, we make progress—but still the females make their gains.

The bald truth is that the men aren't taking care of themselves, and that

women are. The life of the American male has become shorter, and the American female's has become longer. All that in spite of Nature's efforts to keep the male in the ruling class, with a birth rate of 106 to 100. You can take it as you will. We suggest preparedness.

## Little People

### They Will Not Fight Invaders In Bloody Italian Streets

Can you close one delighted eye and see it now, the heroic street-fighting on the part of the common people of Italy? Who can see the picture—with the other eye on the headlines, watching for the news of invasions—as rich, poor, workers, capitalists, farmers, merchants, women and children spill their blood, street by street, block by block, house by house? Someone else must see it. We cannot.

The Italian papers who prate of the resistance of the Italian people to the same who boasted of Italian power and valor during the Ethiopian campaign, and rejoiced as Mussolini plunged into war, asking the privilege of bombing London.

And now they thunder at the frightened little people, telling them that they will kill with their knives and their bare hands against the coming criminals of the world, the churlish invaders. They are told to be the hakaidai waves to break against the German invaders, come as the enemies of the whole world, of peace and truth. And the little people will know those stories for lies. They have seen the enemy themselves, in the black-shirted Fascist parades, and in the coming and going of Nazi troops. They know about the enemy.

They will not fight in the streets, the little Italians. They have never done so, and though they might turn like soldiers to men, fighting for life, if they had found a cause, they will not do so in this war. Now they have no cause; they have long been sick of this venture into war. There are few of them who do not realize that the coming of Hitler to the streets, and the coming of ultimate peace and happiness, they will not draw knives, and fight in the streets.

The time is not long until they must face the day of which their editors write. Already the cities are being laid in waste, one by one, and the fringes of defense are crumbling. The little people see this fury being visited upon them, and fully understand why it comes. That is why they will not be fighting in the streets.

## Price Climb

### All the Money OPA Was To Save Went Up in Smoke

Those who cannot understand the gibberish of OPA experts on the guess-work theory of the amount of money saved by price controls will have to be content with a simple analysis of figures. Those show that OPA has had something of a moderate success. They also show that the story of the Leon Henderson days that the agency would save billions for the country was a gross exaggeration, probably calculated. The OPA is drawing some defense in the Senate, where some of the money taken from it by the House may be restored. The support has been extended because OPA has not completely failed.

In the last war, between July of 1914 and April, 1918, the general retail price level rose 41 per cent. From August, 1939, to May 1943, the level has risen nearly 57 per cent. That, comparing two well-known incomparable periods, gives the nod to OPA and its devious devices. But there's more. Food prices have gone up more in this war than in the last—over 100 per cent as against 51 per cent.

Other commodities and their increases: Rent, 3 1/2-2 cent, clothing 2 1/2-2, house furnishings, 2; fuel, electricity and ice, 10 1/2-2; miscellaneous items, 14 1/2-2. OPA, despite such a gloomy record shows that the record, strangely enough, increases since OPA got its power is greater than increases before that date. Perhaps it is, as many sibilants say. It is, that the President, the Congress and the people could not get the high-price methods of a tough administrator like Henderson, and bowed down, putting into his place a more reasonable man. And reason, somehow, doesn't keep down the prices. The spiral is nothing if not unreasonable.

## Middle Of The Road

# Sweden Looks Forward

By Dorothy Thompson

IN OUR preoccupation with European events, it is hard to observe what those who are closest to them think. Sweden is an island in a Nazi sea. It has close contacts with the neglected continent of Europe. Though neutral, Sweden sympathizes with the Allies, and especially with Norway. Their relative independence enables them to maintain greater objectivity than is given to belligerents, or if they are a European people and will live to live in whatever Europe emerges after the war.

In this connection it is interesting that the most pro-Ally Swedes are beginning to worry at the apparent growth in both Britain and America, of revenge ideas directed against the German people as a whole. These ideas received powerful impetus a few days ago from the British Labor Party, a majority representation of which, after accepted a resolution stating that Hitlerism is the most progressive force as the Labor Party, whose basic principles should lead them to quit other conclusions, takes this view, it is not astonishing that here in America some newspapers and politicians are bristling with revenge, and suggestions that the German nation will be punished by being dismembered, put for years under foreign control, educated by foreign teachers, and even de-industrialized, if, sentenced to starvation. Such ideas grow in the absence of any clear, official statement regarding the future of our defeated Germany. And there is no doubt in my own mind that the dissemination of these ideas contributes to prolong the war.

Recently the leading Swedish daily, Dagens Nyheter, which has been astonishingly outspoken against the Nazis, considering the precarious position of Sweden, published an article which will certainly not please the Nazis, but will not please the revenge-politicians either. The author, Albers Brock-Udden, warned that the democracies must maintain a legal and ethical stance, and fight for law and justice, not vengeance, or they will lose their own democracy.

"Vengeance" says the author, associating himself clearly with the enemies of the Nazis, "is contrary to the nature of democracy." Quietly an anti-Nazi Norwegian leader who also had warned against French law, he says, "The Norwegian fight not only for a nationally independent, but also for a democratic Norway. Public security is one of the most important parts

of a democratic constitution. We fight the Nazis because they reveal public security, and it would be moral to follow their example.

Then, the author points out that the laws of every country, including those of Germany itself, prohibit the use of force against the Nazis. Galling and his satellites have broken a long series of paragraphs of the Norwegian criminal law, and we would do them a service by letting them escape with lynching and giving them a martyr's aureole. Tried and sentenced before the regular courts, granting the accused all legal rights, they would be revealed for what they are: inferior and nasty gangsters.

"Everywhere the Nazis have broken the laws of the mother country and should be sentenced accordingly to these, and this also applies to the dictator, in 1933 the Nazis had no majority in the German Reichstag but nevertheless usurped all the power, thus in a clear breach of the German law, and it is not necessary to make new laws to punish the Nazi leaders."

This argument could be enlarged indefinitely. Hitler became Chancellor under the Weimar Constitution, to which he swore allegiance. This constitution has never been legally abrogated, and Hitler is indictable for nearly every crime on the law books, including murder. Under the Weimar Constitution, international law and treaties are part of the German law. It is not necessary to enumerate here how often he has violated these provisions.

The Swedes have seen more nearly than we the outrages committed by the Nazis throughout Europe. Nevertheless, they reject the theory that the behavior of peoples under the heel of tyrants, is characteristic of their permanent nature. The author of the article, I have quoted, pointing out a historical fact, says: "History's cruel curves show that they are not more humane than the Allies. Perpetual national character does not exist."

Finally, he warns against what is most greatly to be feared: "The side of vengeance would be to bring to the surface those we last want to see in power. As long as we keep to democracy, law, and humanitarianism, our own would-be dictators will have no chance of winning power. The process of revenge would lead to dictatorship; therefore, revenge is treason against ourselves. Western through a clear-sighted, thoughtful, humanitarian and democratic attitude."

## The Time Bomb

By Dorman Smith



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## No Politics

# Soldiers Are For Fighting

By Raymond Clapper

LONDON  
INSTRUCTIONS have been issued by the British Army and Navy and the RAF that no uniformed soldier or sailor or airmen should be engaged in any kind of political appearance, but do all kinds of campaigning. Only scattered elections are to be held before the end of the war, made for the first big general election since 1929, which is expected as soon as Germany is defeated.

Unlike American conservatives, the British Tories have followed liberal policies at times. For instance, the Conservatives advanced broad housing subsidies, social security, milk programs in the schools, and some quasi-socialistic measures relating to electric power and bread-making. Now the Conservatives are showing adaptation again, while the Labor Party is going to seed.

The Conservatives are preparing to bring in a new political generation in the first election at the end of the war. The party has decided by resolution to break away from the practice of virtually selling seats to rich men, and to hunt for young men of ability regardless of wealth or connections. The Tories are now casting about for RAF fliers and other promising youngsters out of the services to run for Parliament. The party's intentions seem to be against taking up with young reactionaries, because the British Tories long ago learned that the best way to stay in power is to take the punch out of the

Laborites by sponsoring reasonable social-service measures. As a result the Conservatives are expected to hold the bulk of their overwhelming strength in Commons, and to control postwar politics.

In the Labor Party the process of ossification is taking place. That is, the older one of the tragedies of British politics, the defeat of Herbert Morrison, who is head and shoulders above every one else, in a grudge fight at the recent party conference, illustrates that the party is fighting the trade unions, and is a frequent practice to put up retired union officials for seats in Parliament. Commons is used as a kind of honorary retirement farm. The aged one of the leaders, like the American Federation of Labor in America, holds everything in a British public life find the Labor Party's gates locked and closed.

One unfortunate possibility is that a more voluble new generation, unwilling to join the Tories even as members of the more progressive wing, will have no place to go except to the extreme left wing. There is no Communist movement of any strength yet, but its strikingly different nature, and its energetic group, much depends on how successful Britain is in easing unemployment in the first post-war stages.

## Side Glances



"I can't think of anything else these days but you and banana splits!"

## The Other View

# Harding Place

THE residents of the Harding Place-Greenwood Cliff section, understanding their protest, are anxious that the people of Charlotte should be made aware of the building of a Negro recreation park near their properties, and that an impression already existing should be removed. Because the News has carried numerous stories on the Negro park controversy, and has commented often editorially it is happy to make this interpretation of the property-owners' view.

The Harding Place section is one of quiet, narrow streets, without direct thoroughfares of heavy traffic from some of the owners they have owned by themselves. Six of the owners hold property adjoining the new Negro park now being carried forward by the City Parks and Recreation Commission. The owners, 25 or more other residents of the section, have protested against the building of the park for more than a year.

Last year, when the intentions of the Park Commission became known, a petition protesting the move was signed, and offered to the directors of Thompson Orphanage (owner of the property) to the Park Commission. Invited to a meeting, the property owners as they received no consideration, but heard a speech from Charles H. Stone, chairman of the Commission, when they had deliberately accused them from the beginning of opposing a Negro park sited in the area.

They wish to correct this impression. They have their spokesman report, offered more than once to try and find a more suitable site (they say the ground must be reconstructed eventually, and at considerable cost), and if the site found, they will pay the difference \$2,500 paid for the Orphanage property, they will pay the difference themselves. They report that they have received no co-operation from Mr. Stone on that proposition.

It is the belief of all these people that another site can be found, there be found, and that a Negro recreation center should be built there. They do not object to the building of a park on the site now owned by them, but they do not believe that they themselves should bear the cost of the park—and they believe that's what will occur if they do not block the building of the park. A real estate expert of the Park Commission, a real estate expert, has told them their real estate values would drop with the park's building.

They estimate that values will drop about ten times the amount of the park's cost. They point out that the City has lost \$100,000 in revenue through the years, that the building of Stonehall bridge—and add that the City is forced to pay a \$100,000 property tax assessments there by an agreement with the Orphanage. Some of the residents hold the belief that powerful interests with something to gain in the Stonehall Street area are backing the move.

At any rate, say these citizens, the present effort is being camouflaged. Mr. Stone, they say, at first they say, is far from the area close to their homes would be a building put there after the war, a swimming pool, a tennis court, a baseball diamond, and perhaps a floodlight. They say that Mr. Stone changed the picture to a park for Negro children with only a wading pool, after their objections became so strenuous.

They say that their attorney has made endless efforts to settle the matter with Mr. Stone, but that the Commission chairman has been stubborn in resisting all attempts to discuss the matter, to discuss arbitrary and dogmatic, and extremely unsympathetic with their problems. They say that the Park is built, the gates will be brought, and that the City will certainly sustain losses.

Opinion in the matter is virtually unanimous in the section, spokesmen say. One landowner, who has offered to build a Negro recreational facilities, approves the park publicly, but has meetings that he privately disapproves it. Two or three City employees have not opposed the park, but they are reportedly protesting, and contributing in the fight to have the recreation center moved to another place.

Spokesmen stress the point that they have not tried to make an issue of the matter through publicity. That the race against Negro has come from Mr. Stone's office. They want it understood that they approve fully of recreational facilities for Negroes. They also want it understood that they will resist to the end the attempt to build the park and his Commission to have them bear the price of the present Negro park.

## Of Disorder

By Samuel Grafton

THE parading of troops in Detroit does not restore order. It merely restores the disorder of the time being. Soldiers cannot restore order. They can only help to restore order. They can only help to restore order. They can only help to restore order. They can only help to restore order.

We shall have order in Detroit only when it is clear that in every gathering-place, park, drug store or late night party, the presence of the citizens present are in favor of order. What Detroit needs is a meeting to prove to the citizens that it is possible to have order. Race riots are demonstrations. There is nothing inevitable about them. They must make it demonstrations first, and cease the demonstrations against the hoodlums who have broken order.

What we must do in Detroit only when it is clear that in every gathering-place, park, drug store or late night party, the presence of the citizens present are in favor of order. What Detroit needs is a meeting to prove to the citizens that it is possible to have order. Race riots are demonstrations. There is nothing inevitable about them. They must make it demonstrations first, and cease the demonstrations against the hoodlums who have broken order.

That means work. It means (for should mean) local radio speeches by every Mayor in America, telling the populace what to do in case of racial disorder. It means discussion of the problem in every church, union meeting, business luncheon, business meeting. It means a deliberate, nation-wide campaign to build up every citizen, whether with half-bricks, lead pipe or spoken word. It means making him as lively as his victim is, if he means going back to the people for our answers, as we always must.

But it means work. It means a program on the scale of our air-raid service. And why not? Recent race riots have done exactly what we feared: if race riots might do, they have done exactly what we feared, and destroyed property, and disrupted millions production. They have done exactly what we feared. If there is to be any hope of what was done for him, the only way is to hit it to do it Detroit. We must make it so that there are no more such things happen. Race riots are demonstrations. There is nothing inevitable about them. They must make it demonstrations first, and cease the demonstrations against the hoodlums who have broken order.

## Words, Idle Words

Editor and Publisher  
WASHINGTON correspondents received from the War Department, Tuesday, an envelope containing two press releases. One stated that the little corps that grow fat and sleek on wars from Army kitchens, eaters will pay for their food on a sliding scale, etc. etc.

lodge" to "globoliance". She suggested that a "globolodge" might even be going "globolodge" rapt, and "The old one stay away from "globolodge".

Departing from the global idiom of the fair Glare coined a brand new name in description of Madame Chiang Kai-shek—Frasin—the beauty and charm of China's leader, and the progressiveness of her energetic group, much depends on how successful Britain is in easing unemployment in the first post-war stages.

People are becoming "globolodge" to "globoliance". She suggested that a "globolodge" might even be going "globolodge" rapt, and "The old one stay away from "globolodge".