

Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday By The News Publishing Company, Inc. W. C. Dowd, Jr., President and General Manager. Burke Davis, Editor. Mrs. Dowd Jones, Secretary. Editor: W. C. Dowd, 1885-1927.

The daily edition of The Charlotte News was established 1888. The Evening Chronicle (established 1903) was purchased by and consolidated with The Charlotte News on July 1, 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 AP FEATURES

The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper, and also the local news published herein.

Entered as second-class matter at Post Office at Charlotte, N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By carrier: 30 cents a week; one month, \$7 cents; By mail: One month, \$7c; three months, \$20; six months, \$35; one year, \$10.00.

1943 SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1943

Patton's Drive

No Other Campaign Fought By Americans Sarapasae It

It is 60 miles from Agrigento to Palermo, on a line through rich Western Sicily. Along the route lay mountainous terrain, broken by valleys which have been farmed since ancient days. In the North is the orange country. This week, the pleasant land was a place of death and roaring destruction. General George Patton, the bloody American, was running a sharp thrust through that countryside.

He made the last half of the 60 miles in 38 hours, traveling so swiftly that Army intelligence officers back home, thoroughly familiar with Sicilian problems, refused to believe that Palermo had been captured when the news came through. He turned the trick, one of the exploits in the annals of great leadership, against heavy opposition. Army headquarters estimated that 100,000 Axis troops (German and Italian) defended that area of Sicily.

Patton, when the spotlight was turned on the British advance up the coast to the East, urged his five divisions forward. Against three armored divisions and two coastal divisions and supplementary troops of the American command, one regular division, two National Guard divisions, one armored division, and one division of paratroopers. He asked nothing more.

Before the enemy realized what he was about his paratroopers had flustered down into the great valley in Central Sicily, and the bulk of the Seventh Army was hammering through the passes, coming to their support. When the forces were joined, the mountain range lay between the hurrying Americans and Palermo, the chief port. And when the Patton armor fell upon that city's defenses, chewed up the Italian defenders in a brief battle, and entered the city, Sicily was won. The British-Canadian armies had received most of the public notice in the first twelve fighting days, but there was every good reason why the Patton armor should enter the enemy country, facing the danger of being cut off, should not be made the object of news reports. Recognition came only with achievement.

The men who carried that piercing blow into Sicily were just young Americans (many of them only a year out of civilian life) who had been fighting the Sicilian campaign, or on edges with it, coming for two weeks. They might as well be supposed to have been near the limit of human endurance. But when the first fierce fighting on the coast died down, their commander called the real battle turn, and they hit the track. How they succeeded may be determined from the amazement with which their story was received, and from the frank admiration coming from other Allied commanders. General Patton has proved once more that his reputation as a rough-and-ready commander is deserved. In this Sicilian drive, more even than in the Tunisian finale, he proved himself and his men. There need be no concern for the future of this conflict, with men and armies like Patton and his Seventh in the field. He suddenly collapsed what might have been serious enemy resistance, and made the end of Sicily almost an accomplished fact. This feat is fit to record with any deeds of Americans at war.

Bob's Stand

It Won't Make Sense To Anyone Who Can Remember

Our Bob Reynolds, already going frantically at the job of trying to cover up his isolationist trail, recently wrote to The London, editor of The Rockingham Fox-Dispatch, protesting against a reprinted editorial from The Southern Pines Pilot. We think the exchange is revealing. The editorial:

Senator Reynolds' theory is that when the casualties begin to come in people will begin to esteem him more because he can say, 'I told you so.'

Well, several people around here have already told their kin and it doesn't seem to make them any fonder of Senator Reynolds.

Maybe they figure that if the Senator and his friends had not done something they would be blamed for their boys would have had a better chance.

Maybe they are proud that their boys did fighting the kind of po-

ple the Senator has always said he admired.

And, from a long-winded letter, a part of Our Bob's comment:

"It is needless for me to tell you that I did everything I could to keep this country out of this war. I have done so, and all war or wars. As you know, I voted against the lifting of the Arms Embargo—in other words, I was opposed to our manufacturing weapons to place in the hands of those who were fighting. That was before we entered the war. You know I voted against the repeal of the Neutrality Laws because I wanted our country to remain neutral, and not become involved in this war or any other war. I voted against sending our soldiers outside of the Western Hemisphere before we ever entered the war. I voted against the Lend-Lease Act, because I declared it to be the Lend-Lease-Give Act, and said at the time, if passed, it would virtually be a declaration of war."

If there is any North Carolinian of voting age who cannot make up his mind for 1944 on the basis of the remembered record stacked against Bob, an unblinking reality, we fear for the future of the State.

Nazi Retreat

It Marks the Way for the Coming of the Bitter End

Now there is the news that there is a new Nazi plan for the defense of Europe. And that is news. If true, it is the first fine new fact of the war in many months for our side. It means more than a victorious campaign, like that of North Africa or Sicily, for it means the earlier winning of vastly more important campaigns. If this news is truly news, then Festung Europa does not exist any more, even in the uneasy mind of the Nazi conquerors. The report is that the German defenders will fall back, desert all the great works and guns reported lining the French beaches and sludding the Lowlands. They will retire, and crawl into an area of defense bounded by Germany, Denmark, Hungary and Rumania. And so the tide of evil is ready to be turned in a few months, if not years, into a new, heretofore, without hope. And all this was accomplished by one action: the landing on Sicily.

Note carefully that Sicily had not even been won when Berlin began talking about the defense of the continent, the defense of the very core of German lands. The outer works are something new. They were once the bulwarks of Europe which could never be stormed. The Germans had built their own legend about the miracles of Todt, they who had proved time and again that fortifications cannot stop a modern army. They believed in this legend themselves, until the first soldier jumped ashore on Sicily. Then the jig was up, and the rout was on.

Shrewd soldiers have been saying for many years, since the very start of this war, that Germany would one day suddenly and unexpectedly give up. She would start downhill, and come to an untimely end, almost at the peak of her power. She is in such a condition now: ready for the final kill. The end is not yet. There are great campaigns to be fought in the months ahead. But the stage is set for the end. For, if the Germans begin to flee from their forts along the rim of Europe, then the winning of France and the Lowland beaches and the Balkan Command has been waiting for. Our own observers have been commenting since the Sicilian landings that there was no more Fortress Europe, and that other side of the world could be easily invaded. Now there is admission from Germany. It is a sort of open invitation to enter into the forbidden land, and it is not a threat. It is a promise of sorts that there will be little serious opposition until the heart of the captive empire is reached.

If our leaders truly that story or believe in their own pronouncements, then the time to strike at Europe itself has come. If the enemy is ready to make a little stand for the sake of the history books, and then retire into a shell where he can be bombed without end through the air, then why not starve them then we should accept the challenge. If these things are true, the finish of the European enemy cannot be very far away.

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

THOSE who have peered at Vice-President Wallace's address to be delivered in Detroit Sunday, say that it is the fightingest, toughest speech of his career. That saying is so, since he has delivered a couple of others which made Republicans indignant in name-calling and which were read with avid interest all over the world.

Inside fact is that Wallace was planning a fighting speech even before his public row with the children and relief from the President's word. The VP plans his speeches a long time in advance. Sometimes weeks weeks preparing them, writes the Detroit Free Press. So, any such statements in the Detroit speech will not be the result of the Jones row. Basically they will result from the same source. The Vice-President is determined to take up the old liberal mantle where Roosevelt dropped it with the war.

The President has given complete approval to Wallace picking up the mantle. He read every word of the Detroit speech and even put in some punch lines. However, whether the President approved or not, the bits that he does get started in Detroit, I think he will continue the liberal fight. Basically, not given to easy expression, Wallace doesn't rouse easily. But when he does get started, he doesn't stop. He now feels that the old economic-social issues which Roosevelt faced during the bank holiday period of 1933 are back again, and that someone has to carry the ball.

Cox Tops 'Em

Congressman Eugene Cox of Georgia has now set the all-time high for helping himself and family at the expense of American taxpayers. Other Congressmen from time to time have put their relatives on the Government payroll, but none has ever come anywhere near Cox's record for getting so many feet in the feet-box.

At present he has six relatives on the payroll for an annual total of \$21,120, including his own Congressional salary. In addition he has now secured from Congress a handout of the taxpayer's money to the tune of \$50,000 to investigate the Federal Communications Commission after that Commission unearched a check for \$2,500 allegedly received by Cox for lobbying.

It is a criminal offense for a Congressman to lobby with a Government bureau, so the FCC referred the matter to the Justice Department. Whereupon Cox persuaded his brethren on Capitol Hill to investigate his Federal account and make "impartial" chairman of the probe.

Here is the detailed breakdown of Cox's nepotism:

Helen Robinson, Cox's secretary, is his sister—\$3,200 a year.

J. Chaney Robinson, her husband and Cox's brother-in-law, is assistant House bill clerk—\$3,120 a year.

Grace Cox, wife of the Congressman, is a clerk in his office—\$3,120.

Robin Cox Sr., a brother, postmaster at Donahoeville—\$2,400.

Mrs. Jim Cox Haggard, a sister, postmaster at Cassville (Cox's home town)—\$2,400.

Under Two Flags The children of the American ships were put under the Panamanian flag to avoid neutrality laws are now coming home to roost. As a result, the U. S. Government now employs 500 ships, when it pays in hard cash every month, but over which it has no disciplinary control whatsoever. The seamen are not under the law. The Government, though actually they are American citizens. So when they get into brawls in American ports, they must answer to the laws of the country. They are American citizens and draw American pay.

Certain State Department officials are urging that the problem be solved by manufacturing the ships back to U. S. registry. Note: At present, when one of these ships clears a U. S. port it must pay a \$20 fee to the Coast of Panama, in spite of the fact that the ship belongs to the U. S. A.

Axis Distortions

The Axis radio is trying to scare up a war in South America. The Bolivian Army, with Peru's support, according to the Axis, is about to launch an attack on Chile to gain a port on the Pacific.

Here is the only grain of truth behind this propaganda: When Bolivian President Penaranda returned to La Paz from his visit to the United States, he stated publicly that Bolivian aspirations for a seaport had never been abandoned, that when the opportune time arose Bolivia would assert that claim. Truth is, however, that Penaranda had no such militant motive in mind. Furthermore, moderate elements in Chile assert they would be perfectly willing to discuss the sale of the port of Arica to Bolivia.

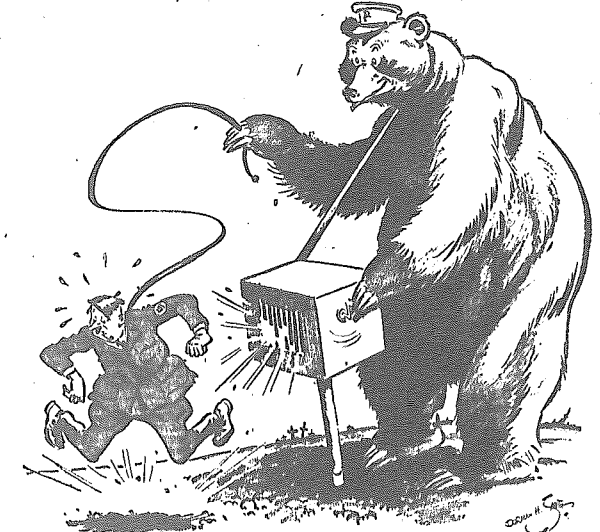
If the Chilean moderates actually bring about negotiation for the sale of Arica, they will set a new high in good neighbor relations. It has not been long since the territorial ambitions of South American countries—in the case of Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia vs. Paraguay—have been settled by a resort to arms.

Merry-Go-Round

U. S. officials visiting Britain are struck by the fact that a British air officer can breakfast with his family, see the children off to school, and in two hours be over the heart of enemy territory on a bombing mission. Politics are wonderful, if there is any significance behind the move of native Frank Gannett, New York State publisher, in opening a Washington news bureau in charge of Cecil Dickson, formerly of the Associated Press. Representative John Leashli of Michigan has chalked up a record for his colleagues to shoot at. He is turning all of his Congressional salary for 1942 and 1943 into war bonds. . . . Leashli has private business interests in Detroit, but can't be classed in the heavy income brackets.

"It's a Topsy-Turvy World, Eh, Adolf?"

—By Dorman Smith



Bombing Of Rome Show Of Great Power

By Samuel Crafton

THIS bombing of Rome was the use of force as a demonstration of force. The message was under iron control, force limited and circumscribed.

Consider that the American and British air-men chose not to protect themselves by bombing the night; that they chose the barest day and the clearest part of the day, in order to be sure not to hit religious and cultural monuments; that they chose precision bombing, not area bombing; that they came over Rome in waves half an hour apart, permitting smoke to clear between blasts in order to see with certainty what they were about. Each of these decisions increased the danger to our armies and Britain's. This was not force as war, but force as war when it falls by chance into his hands.

In comparison with Goering's weak violence over London, this was strong gentleness. The bombing was a demonstration of force. The message was under iron control, force limited and circumscribed. Consider that the American and British air-men chose not to protect themselves by bombing the night; that they chose the barest day and the clearest part of the day, in order to be sure not to hit religious and cultural monuments; that they chose precision bombing, not area bombing; that they came over Rome in waves half an hour apart, permitting smoke to clear between blasts in order to see with certainty what they were about. Each of these decisions increased the danger to our armies and Britain's. This was not force as war, but force as war when it falls by chance into his hands.

If we were a weaker or more despairing foe, the Vatican would have meant more to them. We were fighting negatively, they concerned ourselves, his danger would be far greater. But we are fighting affirmatively. We do exactly what we say we shall do, no more, no less. Therefore we are no longer a vague menace to the Vatican, nor a doubtful quantity; we are a guarantee, a better one than any Mussolini or Hitler can by his strength.

The raid, on Rome showed our power to protect, as well as to wound. It must have made them on the streets below conscious of the double meaning of our strength.

That is the lesson which could be read in the skies of Rome this week. And if we can read it, we may be sure Italians can read it too.

It means that our promise to the Italian people to hold them safe against harm, once they have ejected Fascism, is a god promise. It means that we are strong enough to spare them, whereas the Germans have never been strong enough to spare anything or anyone. The Germans have not been strong enough not to be murderers; they have not even been strong enough not to be chicken-thieves and bread loafers. They have never been strong enough not to use all their strength.

We are. That is what makes the raid on Rome a moral demonstration. There would have been no moral grandeur in not raiding Rome because of fear of the risks involved. To do it as we did it, doing what had to be done, and then wiping out the special dangers by accepting additional dangers, is morality grand.

We might have proved we have enormous power. We proved instead that we have enormous strength. The Italians will understand. They will know. The bombs we did not drop bring the revolution closer. It becomes a revolution against men too weak to restrain themselves, on behalf of men strong enough to hold back their arms.



"It's wasting money, Mother—taking singing to improve my talking voice, and dancing so I'll walk gracefully! I can pick that up in the movies!"

About Rome Real Discipline

By Raymond Clapper

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NORTH AFRICA WORD gets back here that the Axis is complaining about the bombing of Rome. The Axis line, as we hear about it here, is that the "Allied barbarians are destroying centers of ancient culture and religious shrines." Two things might be pointed out to keep the record straight for the benefit of anybody who might be concerned lest there be some grain of truth in the Axis propaganda.

First, we did not bomb anything in Rome except railroad yards and similar military targets. We did it in daylight so we could see what we were doing. We did it under the most rigid discipline of precision bombing. In Pantelleria we allowed only 1,500 yards between our bombs and our own landing forces. That was a sufficient margin of safety. The nearest church to our military targets in Rome was farther away than that. I hope that our comradely will allow photographs from the raid to be published because they will answer all questions more convincingly than any of us on the rail can answer them. The truth about it is so clear that we need not worry about the misrepresentations having any lasting effect.

Second, it might be pointed out that the Axis concern over culture and the sanctity of religious institutions must have been suddenly acquired when nobody was looking. It seems to me I remember seeing in London only a few weeks ago that buildings all around St. Paul's were down-taken in the financial section of London. The Germans tried to wipe it out in the big blitz two years ago. I also remember that I saw severe damage to St. Thomas's Hospital on the Thames near Lambeth Palace.

Obviously I make no comparisons but the historic fact is that Lambeth Palace is the home of the Archbishop of Canterbury, head of the Church of England, and it was in the midst of the raid and seen. Nearby offices of the London County Council, the Parliament Buildings were hit, along with Westminster Abbey just across the street. Anybody in London can see the ruins of the exquisite Queen's Concert Hall, the British War Casualty Building. All who walk down Piccadilly can see the ruins of the beautiful Wren Church of St. James, the University of London buildings, now occupied by the British Ministry of Information, have been hit.

Of course, all that proves nothing except that the Germans set out to bomb London indiscriminately. In war you can't complain much about that. There is no such thing as making war reasonable or very humane, or respectful of anything. War is a brutal institution with one purpose—to defeat the enemy—and you can't make a game of cricket out of it. The real question is whether mass bombing is efficient but that is something else.

The American Air Command seems to feel that mass bombing is rather wasteful. So the American Air Force works on the principle of precision bombing of a restricted target, knocking out the selected area completely so we won't have to repeat. We also work on the theory that the quickest way to break enemy morale is administer military defeat hence bombs should be used to that end so far as possible.

Anyway that's what we were doing about Rome and all the newspaper witnesses who went on the raid saw with their own eyes that the Italian city was far away from our path. We were after the railroad yards and we got them.

Everyday Counselor Miracle At Sicily

By Rev. Herbert Spough

"INVASION Luck—Seas Calmed Just Before Yankee Land," so the headline writer captioned war correspondent Kitchener's description of the invasion of Sicily.

"We landed with cheers. . . . It was a unique experience to steam silently and in an eerie calm into this southern Italian port and ride gently at anchor after a day's storm which had seemed to menace the entire expedition with destruction.

"Chosen for its almost uniformly good weather in this part of the world, this month of July proved the exception that proved the rule. Our immense convoy was caught at noon in gradually ascending trouble beginning with a light breeze, through a stiff breeze into a moderate gale. By late afternoon it appeared that if we continued we should be unable to disembark, yet to turn back would be only slightly less disastrous. . . . We were to go ahead. . . . Until long after dark waves beat spray clear over the highest signal bridge of a Coast Guard transport, and the stoutest spirit was ruffled with anxiety as we measured the size and crashing power of the white plumed sea against our fragile landing craft.

"Then just as in the landing last November at Oran, where a storm had raged up to the last minute, here off the parched white shores of Sicily the wind suddenly ceased.

"At midnight as we entered the approaches to the port, the sea had become so quiet we could stand without support, and watch without strain the spectacular bombing by our air force of isolated positions around the port and beaches we were about to assault. . . .

Some may call the stilling of the waves at Oran and Sicily luck. Others will remember what has gone down in history as the Miracle at Dunkirk (see Readers' Digest, December, 1940). They may recall stories of groups of praying soldiers on the beaches. They may know that our war effort is being backed with much prayer by service men and civilians. SOME OF US PREFER TO CALL THIS AN ACT OF GOD. AND WE WILL KEEP ON PRAYING.

Quote, Unquote

—Sir, Richard Slater, Methodist minister from New York. On the battlefronts of the world we are a united people. We are united in our fight on the home front, joined with the fight on the battlefront. —CIC President Philip Murray. America has come to a great deal more to me than when I was living in it. It is taking it all for granted. It never did me as it does now. Great war has been in it. It is to be an American. —Harold Gilmore, North Africa soldier, in letter home.