

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle
Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday by
The News Publishing Company, Inc.
W. G. Dowd Jr., President and General Manager
J. E. Dowd, Vice-President and Editor
W. G. Dowd, 1955-1927
The daily edition of The Charlotte News was established in 1888. The Evening Chronicle (established 1903) was purchased by and consolidated with The Charlotte News May 8, 1914.
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 mail: One month, 27 cents; three months, \$2.50; six months, \$5.20; one year, \$10.00.
By carrier in the city of Charlotte: 15 cents a week; one month, 63 cents; three months, \$1.25; six months, \$3.00; one year, \$7.50.
For home-delivered rates outside the city of Charlotte, see your local carrier.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1941

Comrades!
It Takes an Italian
To Insult a Japanese

"It is an honor to fight together with the Japanese," Mussolini shouted from the Piazza Venezia.
That is beside the point. The Duke's legions are honored by joining up with anyone who will fight. Indeed, only by the skin of his teeth and the assistance of his marauding was the faltering Duce rescued from disaster in Greece and Libya. Even although Hitler could not give the Italian fleet from his disaster at Taranto or Italian colonial troops from capitulation in Ethiopia and East Africa. In fact, if Hitler were glibly enough to have counted on Italy as assistance in taking Moscow before Christmas, this miscalculation as well as the bad weather might have explained his retreat.
It is obvious that any new partnership could add to the valor of the Italian fighters. The question is, how will the Duce's brotherhood-in-arms react to the fact of it, it is an insult even to the Japanese who, up until yesterday, had been considered beyond provocation.

Put your dollars on the firing line against Japan. Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps today—and buy as many as you can.

Stalking Horse
Did Japs Duplicate U. S. Planes for Hawaii Attack?

Without giving comfort to the enemy, let's speculate briefly about a couple of the ruses the Japs might have used to sneak up on Hawaii.
It has long been known that the imitative Nipponese have been copying planes, ships and machines. There is also the apocryphal story about how Nipponese spies once were allowed to steal some "secret" plans for a new U. S. destroyer. The plans called for a fast, light and impractical ship—not even considered by our Navy Department. But after they stole the plans, the Japs used them to rush a fast ship to completion, and, with much self-satisfied secrecy, sent her down the ways. The craft rocked precariously for a few minutes, then turned over and sank.
However, it may be that the little yellow men may have turned their imitative powers to better advantage this time. It is not beyond the bounds of possibility that for the attack on Hawaii they patched up exact duplicates of U. S. Navy planes stationed at Pearl Harbor. The Japs admit that it was a suicide flight, that the pilots didn't expect to return to their bases.
Explains in America could have stolen exact specifications for our patrol bombers; other copies in Hawaii could have furnished exact markings and lettering. A squadron of such planes approaching peaceful Hawaii would stand every chance of reaching its objective unchallenged. Such a trick would also account for the concentration of the "American" planes suddenly began bombing American ships.
Maybe that's the way it happened, maybe not. At any rate, whatever strategy the Japs used, it worked.

The Consumer
He Needs More, Not Less Representation

An eminent North Carolinian, Miss Harriet Elliott, has resigned her national defense post. The former executive dean of the Women's College of the University of North Carolina had headed the Consumers' Division of the OPM. It was she whose responsibility it was to look after the emergency. That she has done well as the limited authority given her permitted, no one denies.
But there was a continuing disposition on the part of the Government to relegate Miss Elliott's division to a hopelessly subordinate position. Her priority rating, which was the lowest in the entire OPM—there was no special consumer group to bring pressure for its own interests, so those interests were considered of little import.
Despite this handicap, Miss Elliott attempted to advise and guide buying power by a publicity campaign—the only device at her disposal.
Finally, in the last shuffling of OPM, there was a move to disband the Con-

sumer Division and let the vestige of its duties revert to the Department of Agriculture and the Food & Drug Administration. Here Miss Elliott balked and resigned.
It is to be hoped that President Roosevelt will not accept her resignation—and more, that he will reconsider the representation of the consumer in the emergency. Now that we are at war, there will be an even greater inclination to ignore the interest of consumers. Moreover, if it comes to rationing, there is every reason why the buying public should be spoken for in high Government councils.
Lack of a powerful organized pressure group should not condemn the consumer to non-representation. Rather, after a look at some of the more vicious lobbies, it should commend him.

Now!
It Is Time To Form
An Allied War Council

As the sickening shock of a terrible week began to wear off, as clouds that pump "excitement" into the human bloodstream went dry, Americans were left with the alone realization that for all their wildest fears had materialized, the United States was threatened as never since—or perhaps before—civil war days. No longer could we say we were fighting not for principles; we were fighting for life.

On both sides the world was closing in upon us. Japan struck before we had finished building a two-ocean navy. Now our little more than a one-ocean navy was fighting a two-ocean war, a fight to the finish. After the initial surprise, both our Army and Navy were giving a good account of themselves in the Pacific. There was little activity reported in the Atlantic.

In Russia there was a mysterious German withdrawal, an admission that the Winter campaign against Moscow was called off. Von Bock, the pale-eyed Prussian commander on the central front, was reported recalled to Berlin in disgrace.

And as the Germans hordes fell back to the west, Britain—already fighting for her life in Malaya and Libya—watched and waited. Would the frustrated Wehrmacht turn across the Bosphorus into Turkey and strike for Constantinople? Or would Hitler storm through Spain into Morocco to relieve whatever remains of Rommel's shattered African army? Or—and this horrified the British most of all—would Hitler now unleash his great invasion of Britain? Some said "land a billion thousand" planes, tanks and gliders—8. Navy planes stationed at Pearl Harbor. The Japs admit that it was a suicide flight, that the pilots didn't expect to return to their bases.

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They are united, Americans, they work together, plot together—Japs, Germany, Italy. They can hit you where it hurts at the time it will hurt most. They are closing it—NOW!
But look at your allies, America. There's Britain fighting her battle. And Russia fighting hers—even while she's at peace with Japan. You are menaced in both oceans. And 14,000 miles away, the Chinese fight on in the face of their struggle. Why don't you get together with your allies, Americans, plan together, fight together? Your only barriers are time and space. Unless you conquer these and hang together, you and your allies, as sure as the sun rises, will hang separately.
Put your dollars on the firing line against Japan. Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps today—and buy as many as you can.

Head-Hunt Is Certain

By Hugh S. Johnson



It is too early to go head-hunting for the cause of the islands. The damage done to our fleet and our defenses is so terrific that an eventual head-hunt is certain—apparently not of individuals but of official skills must roll in the sea.

But it is not too early to seek out the direct responsibility that, considering the situation in the Pacific, could permit such a relaxation of vigilance and disposition of troops and ships as would permit a daring raid on three such powerful stations as Pearl Harbor and, from all that appears, Cavite and Olongapo.

ATTACK WAS TO HAVE BEEN EXPECTED
On Armistice Day this column called attention, not only to the practical certainty of such a sudden attack, to the absorption of our fleet by a very early war in the Pacific, and to the disposition to head-hunt and our defenses, there was a sort of side show: to the main circus in Russia, but it showed an amount of interest in such a Japanese war would close one of the only three courses by which the Axis might be defeated—by the great democratic ally, Russia, by the most powerful of the Axis—the other two being through Marmak by rail to Central Russia, and through the Persian Gulf.

Gen'l Johnson's Armistice Day column said in part: "... this column did not direct attention to the fact that we are about to go all the way across the Pacific Ocean to fight a war just as we begin to prepare in another war is simply incredible. ..."

There was lack of emphasis on Pacific
The head-hunt of Marmak rule is threatened with some of the British declaration of war on that island. The head-hunt of Marmak rule is now checked up in the Japanese mind. The head-hunt of Marmak rule is now checked up in the Japanese mind. The head-hunt of Marmak rule is now checked up in the Japanese mind.

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Pincers

By Herb Cook



Letters to the Editor:
Blames Alcohol For Defeat

Having read your editorial in tonight's News "At Hawaii" I want to give you my viewpoint on your editorial.
Admiral Thomas C. Hart is commander of the Asiatic Fleet which is now based at Manila and was not anywhere near Honolulu or Pearl Harbor at the time of this attack.
Pearl Harbor is a suburb of Honolulu which is located on the main island of Oahu. You ask in your editorial what our officers and men were doing and as an old Navy man, I want to tell you what I believe they were doing and one word when the truth is known will explain it full, that one word is LIQUOR.
I have not been to Honolulu since July, 1920, when I was there as a midshipman in the United States Navy, however, I did stay in the Navy long enough to know that officers and sailors alike get drunk every Saturday night, the sailors in the Hawaiian Islands drank one of the strongest native alcoholic drinks known as "kava", made up of fermented fruits of the islands and distilled by the natives similar to our moonshine or white lightning. It is cheaper than bottles in bond, which most officers drank when off duty and it

Strategic Materials

By Raymond Cleeper



These materials are having a tremendous effect on the Pacific war. They are the main reason for our success in anything previously contemplated. Our plans for production of strategic materials are being carried out in a most efficient manner. Under our control, so that our ships could move to and from the Far East. We have recently made efforts to accumulate stocks and these are sufficient to cushion us against severe reductions in civilian consumption are made. But those cuts may need to be quite drastic in some respects.

TIGHT SITUATION IN RUBBER EXPECTED
Production officials are rechecking our position on the probability that we may have much difficulty in getting to the Pacific. The difficulty will be large.
To be on the safe side President Roosevelt is preparing the way for drastic curtailment. He warned in his radio address that use of metals for civilian purposes must be cut in half. We may expect to face a like situation in rubber as well. Also we will expand our production of war materials, which will further strain the restricted materials.

As this is written Japan is making a desperate effort to grab the Philippines. If that succeeds, or if Japan is able to cut off shipping to the Philippines, we are bound to feel the effects back here in our supply of goods, and our war production. It is estimated that a third of our chromium from the Philippines and from New Caledonia in the Pacific area. All of the Manila fiber, for which there is no substitute in making tires for main use, comes from the Philippines.

Japan is also driving toward the Burma Road. Over that road we obtain most of our tungsten. OSM also many other commodities essential to war production which we must obtain from the Far East. Most of them are items which are not in the general public but indispensable in industrial processes. Without some of them we could not make hard steel needed for tools and war equipment. Much comes from India largely from the Government supply. But unless we can get across the ocean it will do us no good. Much is necessary for manufacture of electrical equipment.

PUBLIC SHOULD KNOW REASONS FOR RESTRICTIONS
This is elementary information in industry, but unless the general public understands the reasons for the restrictions on civilian goods that may be ordered, nor the magnitude of the effort that lies ahead.

"Back Stabbing"
Editors, The News:
The American people realize and know for a fact that we have and are tolerating in these United States three very dangerous people. They are Wheeler, Landberg and "our" Bobbie Rice. Your paper can be of big help in influencing other people to use their influence to get rid of these backstabbing Army and Navy work of these men.
As a matter of fact we want a foot print on any one who chaps the good and correct work now being done by our PDI and his aides. We are not in any one who could not get underway until several hours after the first attack at Pearl Harbor.

NEWS Subscription Was Appreciated
Editors, The News:
Let me express appreciation in behalf of the men of the service for The Charlotte News subscription sent complimentary to the Bethel Recreation Center. Since the numbers are complete, it will not be necessary to continue this courtesy.

Not Past Mistakes But the Future...
Editors, The News:
Why did Congress not forewarn the community of the danger of the impending danger? Why did a large number of the members of Congress, just a few days ago, say they would not make a defender boys now? Why did many of our leaders preach from their pulpits that the United States would not attack the United States? Why did Congress sit idle by and permit unscrupulous labor leaders

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT
Be assured in your nearness to God. The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom shall I be afraid.—Psalm 124.

Miss Rankin Dissents

By Amy G. Bassett
(Our Valley Correspondent)

THAT one negative Congressional vote, by Jeannette Rankin, in what history may someday be known as the "Miss Rankin Amendment," stands out as a pillar of American resistance, but it does. There are countless women over the world who, in courage and self-sacrifice, stand in this unworthy gesture, but we lack the means to make our own. It is the way they estimate it themselves. Miss Rankin's attitude has been the subject of a book, "The Women of the United States." As another American woman, I deplore the fact that any section of this country could elect, to a seat in Congress, the type of woman who would see fit to repudiate her Government in its supreme hour of danger. The state from which Miss Rankin hails has repudiated her vote, and in no uncertain terms. For this it is to be gratulated but it is still very sad that there were people in Montana who would do this. They were sending to Congress as representatives.

SHE WAS HEALT WITH BY PATIENT CONGRESS
The Miss Rankin Amendment, though not by many times, against our National Defense program, was a very real defense came up before the Military Affairs Committee of both Houses. The committee was to object to every bill that would mean a better, bigger or mechanized army, navy or air force. I watched the patient smiles of the Congressmen who were asked to vote for the bill. I saw the smiling faces of the Army officers who had come there in this spirit. I saw the faces of the Navy officers who had come there in this spirit. I saw the faces of the Air Force officers who had come there in this spirit.

THE FITTY WAS THAT SHE WAS IN CONGRESS
Of course, there are people the world over who have the type of mind, but they do not usually land in Congress. Even the most kind of the legislators down there yesterday knew that the final hour had come. Miss Rankin stands out because she is a woman and all women in Congress present, so other women not here. Her mental processes are something for which the Government can have no further use at this time. The sooner her own state of Montana takes her home, and takes good care of her, the better for Congress and for the rest of us, who now have a real job on our hands. Having the better for Congress and for the rest of us, who now have a real job on our hands. Having the better for Congress and for the rest of us, who now have a real job on our hands.

Senator Soaper Says:

Another pillar of the unprivileged, later served on the Washington power-club, is one becoming, "we the Americans."
Since Governor Dew's publicity on the possibility of defeat, we understand the Navy for the first time are putting rear-view mirrors in tanks.
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Visitin' Around

Rab. Pd. 11:00
(David Record)
O. F. Bess, of Yadkinville, R. I. was in town last week on business and left us a frog skin.
First Week, "The Wizard of Oz"
(130 Years Ago)
"Oranark" play from noted South by George Barr McCutcheon, is headed at the "opera house" this week.