

## The Charlotte News

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1937

### Friends Were Channels

The Rev. A. A. Johnson, Baptist preacher of Candler, Buncombe County, has disclosed an intention of running against Bob Reynolds for the Senate next June. His platform follows:  
"If I am elected to the Senate, I shall ask the ministers to meet and pray for the proper guidance and help of God. Then I shall be guided by their recommendations."

Far be it from us to do anything to impede the Lord's will from being done. In fact, with Robert taking his case from the White House in blank, it would be something of a welcome innovation to have this other fellow 'take them, as he covenants to, straight from Sinai. But we have noticed this.

The pretty nearly always Heaven's directions, when they issue through some receiving set, on earth, take on the tone of the instrument which utters them. Another way to say it is that one can't be sure whether it's Heaven speaking, for itself, or some well-demonstrated interpreter speaking, for Heaven. In either case, the United States Senate being already amply supplied with prophets, we think we'd better for a regulation politician, one more time, at least.

### Thoughts on the Unthinkable

Japan protests to Russia against arming Japan. In Soviet territory and holding them without trial, as "utterly unthinkable in any civilized country."

But, ourselves, we don't know. There are a lot of things we used to think were "utterly unthinkable in a civilized country." As for instance:

A nation at war of conquest against another civilized nation with which you are supposed to be at peace. The murder of women and babies with bombs from the air.

The destruction of fishing fleets and the wholesale murder of fishermen, a simple and harmless trade which immemorially has been allowed to go about its business, war or no war.

The designation of the slums in which the poor of a city live as a "military objective."

The unprovoked and clearly malicious bombing and sinking of a ship of a friendly power, and the unprovoked and clearly malicious machine-gunning of those on board that ship as they fled in boats.

An unshaking determination to be brazenly out of the established facts.

No, we no longer have any very clear idea of what may or may not be "utterly unthinkable in a civilized country."

### Protection for the Innocent

The remarkable thing about the Supreme Court's wire-tapping decision yesterday, in that it ruled the evidence obtained by such means was inadmissible, was that there was no question of the guilt of the four men whose wires had been tapped. They were alcohol smugglers, caught in the act. They were innocent of the crime of wire-tapping. Their guilt was established by their own admissions.

It is a queer doctrine of personal liberty that the Court enunciated yesterday. It is a doctrine that says that if a man is guilty of a crime, he is to be punished, but that if he is innocent, he is to be protected. This is a doctrine that is as old as the hills.

The very fact that it was necessary to tap their wires shows that they were some kind of a criminal, or that their fact was lacking.

### Liberalism and Liberty

The Supreme Court's unbalanced formation, with four Justices on the right side of Chief Hughes, three on his left, was equalized with Justice Van Devanter's retirement from the game. But yesterday in the wire-tapping case, Justice Butler pulled out of his place between the stalwart McReynolds and Sutherland, and shifted to the strong flank. It was over this left side of the line that Justice Roberts, carrying the majority opinion, made a long gain.

The voting of Justice Butler is not hard to understand. Indeed, he seems to be utterly consistent. On questions of personal liberty, he upholds the right of the people to be free from interference by their government. On questions of economic liberty, he upholds the same thing. The aim of the constitution to him, and the function of the court, is to prevent the usurpation by the body politic of privileges reserved to the body of individuals by their government. On questions of economic liberty, he upholds the same thing. The aim of the constitution to him, and the function of the court, is to prevent the usurpation by the body politic of privileges reserved to the body of individuals by their government.

### Winter Solstice

The shortest day of the year is here again. Nine hours and eighteen minutes only will the sun shine palely this December 21st through the mist and the haze. Wheeling on its way through the zodiac, it has now reached the last outpost southward, the sign of Capricornus, the goat. And tomorrow it will turn homeward again, moving eastward toward Spring equinox.

Homeward, with the equinox of our race which makes the center of the universe to be where we are. He is the oldest and the first of the gods, the sun, and we are truly his children, as all the old people of the world knew with the intuitive wisdom of their ancestors. In all northern times and places men have celebrated his turning about from the south with rejoicing. Sometimes they were a little afraid, that might as he was, he couldn't make it, or that he might grow weary in his coming, and so they made great noises and showed great lights to lend him encouragement and strength, as in the Roman Saturnalia. And that is why they say, that even to this day we set off fireworks and Roman candles at this season.

Truly, it is a weary, long, cold wait we shall have before he makes his way back again. Until after the new year is born, the days will grow no longer at all. Then for many weeks his coming closer will not warm us but leave us the colder.

When *hills leap by the road*, And *climb, the shepherd, blows* his name,  
And *Tom bears logs into the hall*,  
And *Jack comes frozen home* in *Paul*.

But come he will, surely. Midway in his journey the trees will put out their arms to meet him, and push forth their buds to salute him, and his coming closer will not warm us but leave us the colder.

The husbandman will go forth with his plough as he has gone forth through all the years of man's story. The earth will stir, and blossom in white and red, and ripen toward fruition. And before we know it, the Summer solstice, the longest day, will be at hand once more, and it will be June.

### Ludendorff

The old man who lies dead in Germany was in this life one of the most fantastic figures of our time. He was a man of the most rigid of mind and megalomania characteristic of the German intellect at its best found their outlet.

All his life he believed in the non-sensical legends of inherent "Nordic" superiority and "German Destiny" so assiduously propagated by the old historian, Heinrich von Treitschke. And to them he gave every ounce of his mind and energy.

A magnificent strategist, he was yet a magnificent soldier by his devotion to these legends. That devotion undoubtedly explains why in 1918 he refused to hear of ending the war as a draw, but that there could be no peace save on the basis of a complete German victory, and against the better judgment of almost all the rest of the German war chiefs, drove through the submarine

policy which eventually fetched the United States into the conflict. And it was that same devotion to these myths which explains the baseness of his old age as a Jew-baiting, his plotting for Adolf Hitler (whom, in his haughty heart, he must have scorned for a pious blabber), and above all, his passionate efforts to destroy the Christian religion in favor of the gods of the Nibelungenlied. The Jew and Christianity, alike, he thought were destroying the "racist" qualities of the "Nordic" and balking "German Destiny." And on the other hand, Hitler was a major prophet of both. And so, down with the Jew and Christianity! And so, *Heil Hitler!* though it choked him.

## BLACK JACK AND A TEST

BY MRS. C. J. JOHNSON

NEW YORK CITY.—Yesterday I wrote about General Pershing's war record. By many requests, this column explains why this noted go-getter of murderous Moro datus didn't bring 'em back alive when he rared into Chihuahua after slaying the "racist" qualities of the "Nordic" and balking "German Destiny." And on the other hand, Hitler was a major prophet of both. And so, down with the Jew and Christianity! And so, *Heil Hitler!* though it choked him.

Intervention, Villa with 500 Dorados suddenly descended on Columbus, New Mexico, burning, murdering, robbing and ravaging. The weakened and surprised garrison finally rallied, drove him out, pursued him into Mexico until their ammunition gave out and then returned. Villa retired only a few days march and waited for about a week, in a defensive position, for the battle that would bring war.

Pursuit in force was delayed for nearly two weeks for supplies and in wrangling with Carranza, who later claimed he never did consent to the pursuit. The expedition which was finally formed under command of Brigadier General "Black Jack" Pershing. He was not permitted to use the railroad from El Paso to Colonia Dublan, by which he could have cut Villa off. Under an old treaty permitting pursuit of "bandits" across an "trail," he had to follow Villa's pony tracks.

In the meantime, Villa, in disgust, assuming there would be no pursuit, started toward his native Durango, ambling himself by taking pot shots at the militia and the army. In this pastime, at Cuernavaca, he was wounded by a spent Carranza bullet. At that very moment distant horsemen, whom he thought were his own stragglers, proved to be the advance guard of Carranza's own regiment, the Seventh Cavalry under Douglas MacArthur, with pain, Villa best it in a buckboard, gulping sin and attempting suicide with bicarbonate—our cavalry so close that they found his warm bloody bandages.

Suddenly the trail disappeared. Pershing's troops in parallel columns streamed south in the most remarkable of cavalry marches in the history of the world. High on a hillside, in an adobe hut, Villa, with a Japanese surgeon from the Imperial Army who acted as Chief of Staff—watched them go.

Tremendous surface forces, never before experienced by the Mexicans under the international force in mid-1916. Germany wanted to entomb us with Mexico to keep us busy at home. Carranza began concentrating his troops threateningly on Pershing's 500-mile line of communication. A disastrous clash occurred at Carrizal. Two divisions of cavalry were smashed and scattered by Mexican troops. Pershing promptly prepared to march on Chihuahua. War hung in the balance.

Suddenly Pershing received the most remarkable orders ever given a field general. Regardless of his reputation or his place in history, he was to be executed.

In hostile country, attacked and threatened daily—but he was not to strike back. It was his job, to occupy but not to fight. There must be no war. Pershing's skill in carrying out these conflicting orders and in the face of them—then and through all his life thereafter, is unequalled in military annals.

The catastrophe of this drama is even more poignant. Villa was developed, Villa's Japanese Chief of staff reported and traitor—or maybe Japan ordered. He came to our headquarters and revealed the exact covert of Pershing's "Whispered" quarry—not four hours later.

I do not know the diplomatic or strategic reasons, or what effect avoiding a Mexican war then had on our sending troops to France within a year—but I know Pershing didn't take Villa into his custody. He was left to his night and that Pershing's intense loyalty, obedience and skill under the fire of this incredible test made him "General of the Armies." It was not, as recent detractors have said, political, but

## Analogy Used By Isolationists Boys Is False

We Have Very Good Reasons To Be In China And To Run Out Would Be Cowardly.

Dear Sir: And new, of course, the isolationists and the star & stripes wavers are trumpeting their 100 per cent hairy chests and declaiming the saying of George Washington about foreign entanglements.

The analogy they like to make is this: that in patrolling the Yangtze River we are committing a folly just as if we had butted into a fight across the street which was none of our business in the first place. Tough luck if we get a bloody nose, they say. We ought to stay home and mind our own business.

This, of course, is false reasoning and is not based upon the facts. The gunboat Panay was in the Yangtze before the Japanese were there. In fact, the Panay was built in the Yangtze. And the precedent for American patrols in China, as well as patrols by other European nations, is almost a century old. This is a guaranteed right to patrol, which Japan admits, and which she upholds when she cuts Rear Admiral Tetsu Matsuura for daring to do it.

Our presence in China may not be worth the candle—or the Standard Oil can—but for the United States to retire before the little brown men who fear us tremendously, would be not only cowardly but foolish. The Japs are treading in our backyard, not we in theirs.

O. R. BENJOHNSON.

Charlotte. NAW, THEY DON'T BOTHER WITH SLEEVES, THEY LAFF RIGHT OUT IN OPEN MEET

Dear Sir:

There is a lot of damned rot printed and said about the Panay affair. The real truth is that all nations, ours included, are just a bunch of miserable cowards.

We were brave enough to go into San Domingo, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Mexico on a damned old life protection, but the shelling and sinking of one of our warships. We then thought a great deal more about protecting a sum of money invested by our so-called financiers, than we do now about protecting the honor of our country and the lives of our citizens.

How the delators must laugh up their sleeves at the impotence of the emasculated democrats.

ARTHUR ROSENBAUM.

Selwyn Hotel.

### What We Sing

(Chattanooga News)

A New England cynic friend is always sticking pins in balloons. The other day he sauntered into the office, helped himself to a cigar, plunked his feet in the middle of the desk, and opined that you can generally always tell the spirit of a people by the songs they sing.

His victim agreed hopefully. "Take, for instance, America," said the cynic. "Back in the Coolidge days of two-car autos, the most popular song was 'Yes, We Have No Bananas.' Then, when Hoover came and there wasn't even one chicken for the pot, we sang 'Mister, Can You Spare a Dime?' Roosevelt was ushered in to the tune of 'Happy Days Are Here Again!'"

"That seemed pretty good, until the cynic added, 'Now we're singing 'The Merry-Go-Round Broke Down.'"

We hurried the postscript as he fled down the stairs.

### Plugging the Hole

(New York)

A number of New York hotels are increasing their room rates. The ugly story was going around that several of our visitors had left town with unpaid money.

### Visiting Around

His Recent Time

(Amherst time, Morganston News-Herald) North Calaveras church has purchased a stove for their Sunday school rooms.

Bunny Ride of a Storm

(Sanford Herald)

Many people along the countryside took advantage of the deer that fell the other day. Morganston News-Herald says so. It had a tendency to keep out the agents while they sat by their warm fires.

Cannibals

(Lumberton News-Herald)

A colored man was in Lumberton yesterday offering 4 fat well-dressed toons for sale at 25 cents each.

Better Cut a Little More, Jim

(Amherst time, Morganston News-Herald)

J. P. Barwell and Jim McCall said they had stowed enough cut ready for use to last until spring, so let's visit around Jim McCall's during Christmas.

## BELIEVE IT OR NOT By Ripley

On request, sent with stamped, addressed envelope. Mr. Ripley will furnish proof of anything depicted by him.



**ROMERO LACROIX**  
**STRONG BOY**  
of  
SAHADLEY FALLS, Mass.,  
AGE, 12  
WEIGHT, 108 LB.  
HEIGHT, 49 IN.  
WITH ONE HAND OVER HIS HEAD

**SAFETY FIRST**  
IT IS THE TRUE NAME OF A MAN WHO HAS DRIVEN 100,000 MILES WITHOUT AN ACCIDENT!  
MR. SAFETY FIRST—of Inglewood, Calif.

Today's Cartoon Self-Explanatory

## ON THE RECORD

By Dorothy Thompson

Respects To The London Times

II

Yesterday I examined the attitude of The London Times at the time of the Japanese seizure of Manchuria, and pointed out that at the time the clique it represented was distinctly pro-Japanese and indifferent toward questions of international law and order. Today I propose to examine the present attitude of The Times and that of the clique which it currently represents.

The Times has seen the Chinese-Japanese conflict spread in the Yangtze valley, until it has become a minor disaster for Britain. Not only in terms of trade and investments destroyed, but in terms of the indispensable qualities of Kampe—reputation and prestige. So now The London Times is reaching out after American idealism.

But in its attitude toward the European situation, The Times is exactly where it was in 1921, in the Manchurian affair.

That is to say: it is advocating a purely opportunistic policy. It is showing itself cynically prepared to close its eyes to any and every consideration that may do immediately affect the Empire.

It supported the visit of Lord Halifax to Hitler, and shows itself willing to give away any colonies to Germany except the British colonies, and to close its eyes to German raids and incursions into Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland or Lithuania. In fact he goes further, and actually says that the method of the coup de main has not been practiced by Germany in the last few years without reason.

So we find The Times in 1937 making exactly the same apology for the use of force in international affairs that it made in 1921. It is prepared to come to terms with aggression—for a price. And, one might add, provided that it has some sort of political sympathy for the possible aggressors.

There is no blinking the fact that most European countries today are pretty badly split over the Fascist issue. In all countries there are groups of "racist whites" who have a certain sympathy for fascism and the ideas of the fascist powers, and this sympathy, without question, affects their attitude on foreign policy. The British cabinet, itself, is divided. Into pro-German and pro-French factions, and The London Times has become the spokesman for the group to which Lord Astor and Lord Latham belong, who engineered Halifax's visit to Hitler and Goering, almost over Anthony Eden's dead body.

Lord Halifax had the doubtful satisfaction of hearing Mr. Hitler re-announce the basic ideas of foreign policy laid down by Hitler in 1921. It completely begs the question as to whether certain German demands, such as that for restoration of the colonies, may appeal to the international sense of justice. There is no

considerable faction in Great Britain not willing to reconsider the colonial question. In the right place, and in the right atmosphere, and many people in England who hitherto resented the Halifax visit to Berchtesgaden, would be glad to see the colonies mandated as Wilson originally hoped, to the League of Nations, and gradually internationalized. The protection of the rights of national minorities in the various states, including German minorities wherever they exist, appeals to the conscience of all decent men. There will, however, be no hope for decent treatment of minorities as long as Germany has set such a shocking example in her treatment of the German Jews, as long as it is Nazi policy to use her minorities in other countries for propaganda purposes.

What needs to be ended, if there is to be anything except international anarchy, is the policy of blackmail of nations after nations, assuming the role of Samson, and threatening to pull down the whole structure of the civilized world, if its demands are not immediately complied with.

It is against this that one part of American opinion is willing to take a stand. It is to end this, and the notion of American opinion is willing to collaborate. It is willing to collaborate for no other purpose and for no other end. The issue is not that of making a "democratic front." The problem is to make a front against aggression and the sanctity of treaties, with the front open to any nation that will come in and help.

But this is apparently not the attitude of The London Times—one known as The Thunderer—but speaking now in the cautious and querulous voice of Lord Astor.

### At the Post Office

(Mrs. Thos. B. Davis, Zebulon Record)

Probably the greatest number assembled in the post office at any one hour are those who come for the mail from the morning train east, out of Raleigh. That's when most of the papers, and it is before the rush of work has well begun in the business establishments.

Before Mr. Gorton, with Miss Ruby Dawson and Marie Watson, can possibly sort the mail and put it in the various boxes we are congregated, waiting with more or less patience to be gratified or disappointed. (As we wait we settle several affairs of the universe.) When the windows finally go up most of the talking stops and those who do not have boxes crowd forward to be handed what may be theirs for them. The bookshelves have taken out a place or two at a time as it was put in and are already deep in the news of the day or have put into their pockets letters to be read in private.

## Earlier Days

News of 76 and 100 Years Ago From Files in the State Library at Raleigh

DECEMBER 21, 1860

15 YEARS AGO

### RETALIATION

"Three important movements have just been made, looking to retaliation for Yankee outrages."

1.—The proclamation of President Davis, the material part of which we copy in another column, ordering the execution of General Butler or any of his officers, if captured, and other very important and proper steps for retaliation.

2.—General Barlow, having demanded the restoration of citizens of Tennessee (not soldiers) who have been arrested and are now confined in Northern prisons, and being refused by General Rosecrans, has sent fifteen officers captured by Col. Morgan at Nashville, on the 15th inst., to prison at Chattanooga. There is no reason to believe that the said citizens of Tennessee are delivered up.

3.—General Floyd, who commands a legion of Virginia troops, in the service of the state, lately captured 200 Yankees, who are therefore prisoners to the state and not to the Confederacy. Gov. Leitch has ordered them to be brought to Richmond for close confinement until the Yankee Government shall release, by exchange, Colonel Zerkow, an officer holding a commission from Virginia, who was captured some 18 months ago, shortly after a gallant exploit in capturing the Yankee steamer, St. Nicholas.

—Payetteville Observer.

### DECEMBER 21, 1871

10 YEARS AGO

### ANOTHER BATTLE

Tampa.—An express arrived late today from Piccola which brought information of a desperate battle which was fought on Peace Creek. The following extract of the letters are all the particulars which we have been able to obtain. They are authentic so far as they go.

"Sir: I have this moment received dispatches from Black Creek."

"Colonel Taylor has had the most severe fight since the commencement of the war. The Indians met him at Peace Creek and the consequence was as follows:

"Killed: 'Five Officers, 30 privates."

"Wounded: 'Two officers, 100 privates."

"This is the account as it came by express from Post Date."

—Payetteville Observer.

### The Masculine Ear—and Eyes

(John Harden, Salisbury Post)

Domestic differences—polite language for family quarrels—sometimes result from the most innocent of remarks. . . . As for instance that Salisbury couple we have just heard about. . . . Friends called on them the other night. . . . And after they were gone the lady of the house said: 'Her niece is rather good looking, don't you think?'

And the husband replied: 'Dear, never say knoe's, say knees are not.'

And the final rounds were not reported, but by blow or word by word.