

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1941

Americans

In Times Like These the Brightest Asserts Itself

In their outward forms the people of this country are no different from what they were two or three days ago. They are excited, to be sure, and overcome with the "deadly" near-knock far-away Pacific outcries, and they snatch newspapers from the newsboys' hands, and give intense concentration to the voices which issue constantly from the radio, still, in behavior they are not greatly changed, and in appearance they remain the same.

But they are different. Something has come over them. You meet a man upon the street. He is unknown to you, and yet you do share the knowledge of something. You know that you are Americans, that your country is faced with the gravest menace of its history. You know that, even as you stride along, men of its armed services are giving battle to the enemy, and that men by the hundreds have fallen in the enemy's hands.

And the two of you know without saying so that what your country may ask of these men, even unto giving up their lives in its defense, is no more than you have the right to ask, no more than you will wholly give—the understanding flows between you, and from all of us into all of us, and somehow we know that we shall face whatever confronts us, and in the facing of it prove our worth to have inherited this land of the free, this home of the brave.

Reservation

Bob Reynolds Goes Into Conference With Himself

Early Monday morning an inquiring reporter asked Bob Reynolds for his reaction to the Japanese attack on American possessions in the Pacific.

"I am 100 per cent against war," Bob replied. A few hours later he joined 81 other Senators in voting for war.

In fairness to the Junior Senator, it should be reported that, after saying he was against war, he added: "I want to know—all about—what—is—happening—before I say anything about declaring war."

The question is, therefore, how much more can Bob find out about what was happening between the time of his first statement and the war vote? As far as the Japanese attacks are concerned, there was little else of importance to be told. The enemy had struck and struck hard. Our outposts were under terrific attack. Our armed forces had been ordered, indeed, needed no order, to fight back with every weapon at their command. The freedom-loving people of the Pacific were sprouting to their stations, their hearts pounding, their blood boiling.

And Bob Reynolds replied, "I am 100 per cent against war." He would have been certain of the cause of the war, you see, probably to determine how his own career was affected, before he would commit himself.

His characteristic utterance may turn out to be his political epitaph. We would be 100 per cent in favor of that.

Prerequisite

Without This Assurance, A Person Takes A Risk

Among the great musical compositions of the ages, it probably does not even rank at all; and yet there is not a man-jack of us who can hear that tinkling song "Jingle Bells" without at once being suffused with a warm Christmas feeling. For effectiveness in opening up hearts and purses and check books to the most appealing of all causes—poor children at Christmas time. Can we in conscience go about our own Christmas plans and anticipations forgetful of the children who are forgotten? We must not risk it. The late recollection might ruin the day.

Or, if you prefer doctrinal reasons to impulse, think of it in this way: "It is not for the sake of the gift, but for the sake of the giver."

Price Bill Omissions

By Hugh S. Johnson

This column has repeatedly had to say on the general front which price control should be the experience of the wisdom of the "Baruch plan" of the House. The House has rejected this plan and has adopted the so-called Administration bill based on the "selective method" of price fixing. It seems apparent that the Senate will adopt this same general method. This is water over the head of the HENDERSON MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN OVERALL BILL.

Nevertheless, I sincerely believe that if Mr. Henderson had stuck to his guns instead of trying to compromise on political expedience, he could have gotten a bill based on an overall ceiling. However, it is very likely that in the end result, the final selective price fixing will be used as a control device.

Accepting these three basic omissions (the overall ceiling, agricultural prices and the control of the House) means that it will be said about the bill in its present form, "The House made an important mistake in the administration bill, specifically: A. The House eliminated the Henderson plan; B. The House accepted the part of many Congressmen that have been hurt; the other horse farmer is about eliminated. He has been driven on to the WPA. It has been unloading him, more like a pig-suckling. If you can work it, you win; if not, you lose."

What the farmer was to get by taking his land out of cultivation is taken by the office force. A very small portion of it goes to the farmer. The average farmer has been hurt more by the control than by low prices. The farmers don't need help; let them alone and they will work out their own salvation. I sold cotton for 42 cents a pound for four years back in the thirties. We didn't get any help from anywhere and prospered by it. It taught economy. Give me liberty or give me death.

J. F. YOUNGBLOOD

Enemy In Full

We Should Declare War Now Upon the Whole Axis

Somewhere behind the pettiness of the Japanese Empire there was a more Machiavellian brain than his own. Every American knows the trade mark. It is the swastika. We have declared war on the actual aggressor, Japan. We will defeat her utterly, so that, as our President has said, "this form of treachery will never threaten us again."

But the destruction of Japanese militarism is not enough. The evil power of Japan is a tool wielded by the even more malignant Germany of Adolf Hitler. Had the Japanese leaders not been Hitler's dupes, they would never have undertaken a war that can mean only their self-destruction. Now, with our stroke, Hitler hopes to destroy Japan, to whom he despised and to weaken the United States and to draw attention from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The very form of the Japanese attack smelt of Nazi staff work, of Nazi technical assistance, of Nazi instigation and aid.

And while the power of Nazi Germany remains unbroken, there is no safety, no security, no hope of real peace for America.

Yesterday, the country was half-hoping for a declaration of war against the entire Axis. For it is the entire Axis that we are now fighting. Just before the historic session, Speaker Haysburn of the House suggested that the declaration might possibly name other nations. But the President forebore, for reasons of his own, and the effect was disappointing. But it is not too late; the very act of declaring war against Germany as the instigator as indeed she is, would have cleared the air, would have put us in the entire Axis, the conquered nations, would make many a German who remembers 1917 start thinking. Let us name not only the hand that threatens us but the brain behind it.

Postlude

The Like of These Two We May Never See Again

In her time North Carolina has produced only two writing men who found their fame by the sheer propulsion of genius. The one was Tom Wolfe. The other was W. J. Cash. Both are dead, Wolfe with hundreds of thousands of words perished within him for want of utterance, Cash with a work of his own, study and understanding of the South he loved so well. It is national in import, and to scholars it speaks and for generations will speak a wordless language.

Wolfe and Cash—those two—North Carolina may well mourn for all time. Without derogation to the other noted writers of the state, able, talented, intelligent men and women though they be, these two were independent of imitative, they were original.

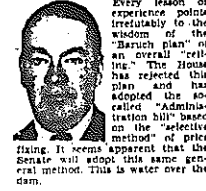
That "The Mind of the South" should be awarded the 1941 Mayflower Cup is a happy postscript to the career of W. J. Cash, and is altogether fitting in that it comes from the hands of a man whose country upon its author. But in no sense must the award be allowed to limit the perspective in which Cash's book is held. It has had and will for years continue to have a salivary effect upon the study and understanding of the South he loved so well. It is national in import, and to scholars it speaks and for generations will speak a wordless language.

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J. F. YOUNGBLOOD

Letters to the Editor

Farmer Blasts Cotton Quota

Editors, The News: I hope the farmers will all go to the election Dec. 13 and cast their votes against the cotton quota. It has been thoroughly tried and found wanting; it is a complete flop. It has hurt the poor farmer. The farmers sold their liberty for a mess of pottage. The small farmers have been hurt; the other horse farmer is about eliminated. He has been driven on to the WPA. It has been unloading him, more like a pig-suckling. If you can work it, you win; if not, you lose.

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World Today (Saturday)

Editors, The News: The World today: Uncle Sam is at the wheel. Hitler got in sight of Moscow. But Stalin put him in reverse. And that put the brakes on Tokyo.

Woolley

National Debt . . . Danger

Editors, The News: President Roosevelt is now asking Congress for another \$7,000,000,000 of Lease-Lend appropriations, notwithstanding that past and present legislation, authorizations approach \$100,000,000,000 of national debt.

Senator Pepper of Florida, the nation's foremost Senatorial war-monger, has said: "If we are in the market for the control of this five, ten, or twenty years, and cost \$100,000,000,000 a year. Congress must do something about this subject. It has been figured that with the expenditure of \$20,000,000,000 annually for defense, Americans may pay at least one-third of the cost of each year."

With the above plan in effect, we would in three years, contract a national \$100,000,000,000 national debt, making a total national debt of \$200,000,000,000. The President's foreign policy is bound to be popular, so long as Congress and the taxpayer will keep handing on Atomic weapons and the remaining of the original \$45,000,000,000 national debt. Until Congress will be expected to make the sky the limit.

Americans are united for home defense within reason, and wholeheartedly support the same; but they are not united in support of being used as a license to take us into a foreign war on the installment plan—each man between home defense and

Senator Soaper Says: The legion of decency finds sex rearing its ugly head again. The children of Atomic weapons and the remaining of the original \$45,000,000,000 national debt. Until Congress will be expected to make the sky the limit.

"Explain to Him, Joe"

By Herb Block



Let's Fight One War

By Dorothy Thompson

FIRST let us get absolutely clear in our minds the facts about the war. I am one of the people who has maintained consistently that Japan would go to war. It was impossible to interest anyone in Washington in the negotiations in Washington were for purposes of dragging out and postponing the decision. The decision was made. It is now clear that they were the latter. Japan was moving her ships and submarines and preparing her forces all the time Kurusu was talking. But that Japan would enter this war at a moment agreed upon by the Axis as a whole was never open to doubt. Otherwise why did Japan join the Axis? Nations don't join in offensive alliances for purposes of peace. They join for war. Hungary joined the Axis and went to war. Rumania joined the Axis and went to war.

HITLER'S SCHEME FOR KEEPING US AT BAY. Why did Japan declare war on us? Why did she not at least attempt to make it appear that we were the aggressor?

The reason is also part of the grand strategy. Germany wants us to have, together with Britain, a separate war with Japan—for the time being. Had we declared war on Japan, Germany, under the terms of the Axis agreement, would have had to come immediately to the aid of Japan by declaring war on us. But Germany wants to continue to use her fifth column in the United States, and they will now all begin yelling that we must stop interests away from Europe and fight our own war. I predict that Mr. Lindbergh will begin talking now about the solidarity of the white race, and about the advisability of concentrating all our energies against Japan, leaving Europe to Germany. That makes it possible for Germany to decide the moment when she will join Japan and strike, and take us unaware in a big way in some part of the planet where we least expect it.

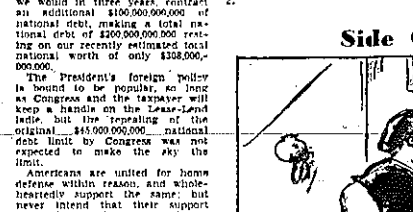
If we are going to win this war we have got to consider it for exactly what it is, a world-wide war waged by a united Axis against everybody else on the planet, and we have got to plan a united strategy on the part of all the free nations allied to the Axis powers. The Axis has a common strategy with Britain, Russia, China, the European Government in exile, and the Dutch Colonial Empire. The place from which we must strike is in Washington. All our bases, and those of the British, are for defense purposes. Only Russia has a base from which an offensive war against Japan can be waged.

TO WIN IN EAST, WE MUST BE STRONG IN WEST. China is of prime importance in defeating Russia. Russia if ever made in Europe and Caucasian and Persian oil of paramount importance. Britain's bases in the Far East are essential. But we cannot ask Russia to declare war on Japan or to grant us rights on her soil, or to fight against Hitler, Britain or Holland in the Far East, unless we are prepared to fight to the finish in the West as well.

We have got to dispose our common forces in a World War. The therefore, the logical answer to Japan's declaration of war against us, is to reply with a declaration of war against the Axis. For Japan's war is an Axis war. The best answer to Japan would be to bomb Berlin tomorrow morning. Germany's strategy is planning the Eastern campaign with Japan, and Germany will fight it with Japan. For as sure as God made little green apples, Germany is going to declare war on us in behalf of Japan, at the moment when it pleases her to do so. We have let Japan choose the moment, and suffer all the disadvantages of those who wait to be called. Like all the other nice Democratic boons who "don't make war unless attacked," we have been taken off guard. Japan has all the advantages of a surprise attack, hundreds of our boys have been killed without even a chance to fight back, the war begins on our territory instead of the territory of our pick, and advances six hundred miles into our territory in the first hour. Now let us have learned the lesson.

The Axis is fighting one war, one war, on all the seas, over all the skies, over all the land. We must fight one war. If Britain, Russia, China, Holland, and the United States fight four separate wars we have been disastrously defeated or to have a war dragged out through endless time.

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Visitin' Around

Past or Future Tense? (Midway Item)

Levin (Dispatch)

Mr. and Mrs. Van Zimmerman are announcing the birth of a daughter Sunday morning.

What's Near Farhatchew Got That Needs Ain't? (UP Item)

Levin (Dispatch)