THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1941

Willie Wins

Mr. Bioff's Little Hint Is Understood by Government

Mr. Willie Bioff will not have to stand trial at present on charges of cheating the Government out of $85,000 in his income tax returns for 1936 and 1937.

Mr. Bioff is the enterprising fellow who, having been convicted of pandering in Chicago, decided to leave that town and move out to Hollywood. There he soon got himself into a job as head of the stagehands' and technicians' union. He made a nice thing out of it, too, so nice that nobody could get a job as a stagehand without joining Mr. Bioff's union—which cost exactly 3,000 smackers.

Mr. Bioff turns out to have made his dispositions thoughtfully. In a Los Angeles court Monday he won a postponement of his trial until September. And the reason he got it was that his attorney told the court flatly that Willie was the only suitable and available man to prevent strikes when Hollywood technicians were sent to produce military training films. Breslin (the attorney) said Government officials had agreed it was essential that there be no interruption in the training picture production."

It seems a delicate way of saying that Mr. Bioff was so powerful that he'd wreck the military training picture program if the Government dared to go ahead with his trial, and that the Government was afraid to take up the challenge.

Beyond Convoy

Decision That Now Faces Us Is Far More Serious

As Mr. Clapper points out in his column on this page Monday, convoy has already ceased to be a dominant issue, for convoy is an inadequate response to the crisis which confronts us.

The passage of France into the Axis means that Hitler has made up his mind to shoot for victory in the Atlantic. Dakar is already his and so is the French fleet. Next come Spain and Portugal, with their bases in the Canaries, the Azores, and the Cape Verdes.

If Hitler succeeds in grabbing these positions, it will be quite as serious for us in the Atlantic as it would be in the Pacific if the Axis grabbed Hawaii.

Once he is solidly entrenched in them, he will be closer to South America than we are. His bombers will be in range of our cities. And the odds are that he will be able to cut the supply line from the United States to England.

If he does that, England will fall and the English fleet and full control of the Atlantic will pass into his hands.

Should we, then, seize these positions before Hitler gets to them? It is almost certain that Washington won't. Such a move would inevitably result in a declaration of war from Spain and Portugal and conflict with Axis powers. And the people are simply not ready for that yet.

Throwing Hitler out of these positions once he has got there will be a long and costly operation, if it can be done at all.

At The Bar

A City Father Protests That The Girls Crowd Him Out

Alderman Jim McDermott of Chicago, who is no feminist, has a peeve with the girls. The cuties have been crowding him away from the bar when the time for his before-dinner drink comes around. Says he:

"A man doesn't have a chance to get close to a bar rail in the Loop between five and six o'clock in the evening. The bars are lined with stenographers who ought to be on the way home."

A startling little picture, which we imagine will not stir too much delight in the breasts of the prohibitionists. But lest they misunderstand it, we had better perhaps go on with Alderman McDermott's testimony:

"I'm tired of seeing women standing at bars. Before prohibition you never saw a woman even enter a barroom. No, sir. She entered the family entrance, sat at a table in the rear but never went near the bar."

It is, of course, a short history of the saga of the female drinker in America. Before prohibition a stenographer who would be taken a drink anywhere would have been cut dead by all her friends. Then came prohibition and made drinking smart for both sexes, and in the tight little speakeasy drinking spots of the time, lining up at the bar with the boys became the natural and really sophisticated thing.

Inevitably, the habits thus formed by the Noble Experiment have been carried over into the conditions of repeal.

Double Play

French Stooges Attempt Both To Frighten and Cajole

The characteristic Nazi approach to any problem is to place a pistol against the head of the intended victim and at the same time whisper the most pious moral professions in his ear and cajole him with great promises.

It was so that France was brought to heel. The pistol was the threat of the total destruction of the French people, like the destruction the Poles are now undergoing. The cajolements, aside from promises to the personal ambitions of the Vichy swine, included vague visions of France becoming the chief Nazi stooge in Europe and Africa, in place of Italy. The actual result is that now Hitler has the French navy, manned by handpicked pro-Nazi French traitors, and that France is at last the complete prisoner of a nation whose plighted word is a guarantee that it is lying in its throat.

The same approach was on view with regard to America yesterday.

The so-called ambassador of the Nazi stooge regime at Vichy protested with loud moral fervor to Mr. Hull against our seizure of French ships to keep them from being sabotaged after the regular Nazi fashion. Then he went on to ride the high horse about Martinique. France, he swore, would defend her possessions wherever they were—just as though France had any possession in her own sovereign right or anymore existed as a sovereign power.

But at the same moment the regime in Vichy was sedulously circulating rumors in that town to the effect that France might make a deal with us about Martinique provided we agreed to consider French West Africa, Spain and Portugal purely the business of Mr. Hitler and Vichy.

The island of Martinique is currently a critical danger spot for us. Located within easy striking distance of the Panama Canal and our cities, it is of primary importance for the defense of this hemisphere. But at this moment Nazi "technicians" are pouring into the island—and experience has long ago shown that these "technicians" are really Nazi shock troops sent forward to prepare the way for a main Nazi assault.

Perhaps they are only interested at the present in trying to run out the French airplane carrier and cruiser berthed in the island's harbors, plus the hundreds of American fighting planes stalled there as a result of our abortive effort to help France last Summer. More probably, they are interested in something more immediately perilous to us.

Incidentally, our wish-thinkers might ponder the fact that the French navy—which Hitler could detach to defend Martinique—is about as powerful as our whole Atlantic fleet. And Hitler can on any evening dispatch a huge air armada from Dakar which will be already established in the island before we know it is there.

Martinique, indeed, cannot be considered apart from French West Africa, the Azores, the Canaries, the Cape Verdes. All these represent terms in a single equation, and that equation adds up to the most deadly peril the United States has ever confronted.

Mr. Hull knew as much yesterday and boldly slashed through the drivel of the Frenchman. But it remains to be seen whether our Government will or can act in time to avert a catastrophe. For obviously, the Nazi approach works with a great many of our people quite as well as it has worked with the peoples of other victim nations.

There may be a thought in the plan of defense training for girls, as few things in this world are as deadly as an armed blonde when everything goes black.

In the South, a trained seal which has long tooted a trumpet in public retires to a life of ease, happy in the knowledge that its art is perpetuated in swing.

The Third Revolution

By Dorothy Thompson

THE RUDOLF affair has disappeared from the front pages of the newspapers, but not yet from this column. For it is not unimportant, but enlightening.

In April of last year, in an article in Foreign Affairs, I wrote: "For a long time the Western world has made the mistake of believing there was no possible synthesis between the Russian and German revolutions. The possibility of synthesis was implicit from the beginning."

This synthesis I believe is now at hand. The Nazi war and revolution have been dynamism, not ideology. The forces let loose have taken on a life of their own, impelled not by the desire to be consistent with uttered principles, but to be successful in conquest.

ALL NAZI PRINCIPLES ARE NOW ABANDONED

Both the Nazi and Communist revolutions are being progressively liquidated. The day that Hitler sits down with Stalin will see the merger of both into the new revolution that has been gathering force in the last months out of events and not out of ideologies.

This, I think, is the true explanation of Hess' flight to Britain. Hess is really a Nazi, who took Nazi principles seriously. And the Nazi revolution is over. It is interred in England.

What was Nazism? It was the original "unchangeable" 25 points of the Nazi creed, plus "Mein Kampf." It was the folk-state; intense racial nationalism; Nordic supremacy; economic populism; anti-monopolism; anti-Communism; and the war against Versailles.

Not a trace remains of these dogmas except anti-Semitism, which is merely a useful brute-cry for spreading unrest among superstitious masses. Anti-Semitism as racialism is completely discarded. Actually, the new revolution is engineering an uprising of the Arab world, racially a much purer Semitic world than that of the westernized Jews, whose Semitism has been diluted for generations. Anti-Semitism will be used in Arabia as a rallying cry against the Jews, not as Semites, but as outposts of Britain in Palestine.

THE NEW REVOLUTION IS ONE FOR POWER

What remains of Communism, of Leninism, of the society of, by and for the masses? Of the dictatorship of the proletariat?

Nothing remains of the original idea except the concept of International world-wide revolution. This has been handed on to Germany, which is liquidating national socialism in Europe and hitlerism in Germany, to become the war-making spearhead of the world revolution, and not a revolution on behalf of the "working masses."

What is the new revolution—the synthesis emerging out of the marriage of the pair whose first encounter was Hitler and Hess?

It is a union of huge, industrial state-capitalistic management with vast armed forces, despotically run by an "elite" of industrialists, technicians and officers. It is the revolution of efficiency and power for the sake of efficiency and power, in disregard of nationality, sentiment, common sense, religion, or the longings and happiness of the people. It is the advanced paranoia of the machine age. I say "paranoia," for the paranoiac is he who mobilizes the most exquisite logic and the most formidable unity and efficiency in support of a perfectly insane idea. It is precisely because it conceives that men exist for efficiency and not efficiency for men. The final human product does not contain it. It is the revolution for slavery.

IT IS BEING ORGANIZED HERE

Incidentally, it is the Lindbergh revolution, and it is being systematically organized in the United States.

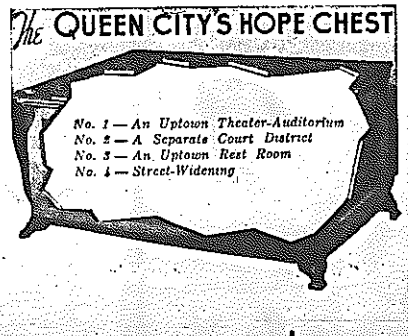
It is with this revolution that the aged Marshal Petain has allied his Catholic-conservative France, without, I am sure, the remotest idea of what he is doing. It is with this revolution that Franco is asked to ally himself, in the most supreme of ironies.

Hess is apparently well aware of what is happening, and entertained the hope that it might be stopped by a return to original Nazism with the aid of the British and a quick peace. But it certainly could not be stopped by a return to Mr. Hess' Nazism, which has turned out to be one of the most absurd-lived ideas in history. Nor can it be stopped by arms alone.

Nostalgia

Statesville Daily

Oh, for the good old days when we filled our front pages with stories about tree-sitters.



Getting Ready for Another Slice?

—By Hitchcock

Letters to the Editor:

Education Lag In S. C.

Dear Sir:

A blush and a sense of shame should be in the face and heart of every red blooded South Carolinian, young and old, to think that our beloved state is on the bottom among the 48 states in educated citizens. Shame! Shame! President Woodrow Wilson said in Paris after the World War, when he received an honorary degree from the Sorbonne, that he always looked on "Education as the arousing of the spirit."

Let me say in greatest seriousness "whenever the mother in the family has her spirit aroused, though her husband may be small as a flea, her children will be trained for life." Never saw this fail. As Dr. Edwin A. Alderman and Charles McIver used to herald this truth all over North Carolina, 35 years ago, "Educate a man, you educate an individual. Educate a woman, you educate generations." Illiterate mothers as a rule mean illiterate children. The hand that rocks the cradle is always going to rule the world.

Now let us say that we are going to wipe out illiteracy in South Carolina among white and black.

Let every church and schoolhouse keep open every night from now until the first of November, having "Opportunity Schools." Second, let there be a collection made by the Camp Fire Girls and Boy Scouts, in each of the 46 counties, of all the spare first and second readers. Get the American Bible Society to sell us low as possible, in primer type copies of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John; also the Psalms.

Get the large life insurance companies of New York to give useful booklets to read, the large five and ten-cent-stores copies of "Pilgrim's Progress" and "Aesop's Fables" in one syllable.

—GEORGE HANNAH ATKINSON
Columbia, S. C.

Medlin Was Not Arrested At Father's Home

Dear Sir:

In regard to the arrest of my son, Sam Alfred Medlin, and the report made by the general and local press, which was made by Federal officers and others who participated in the arrest, I wish to say the press has clarified this particular matter to my entire satisfaction. But the officers who acted on theory instead of knowledge in making this wild and incorrect report have not.

This particular report was to the effect that Sam Alfred Medlin was captured at my home and had been making his home with his father.

The place on which the arrest was made was on my farm, but not my home. It is leased and I do not reside there at present. Neither have I lived there in a period of almost four years.

Furthermore, Sam Alfred Medlin has been gone entirely out of my jurisdiction and control for a period of six years or more.

—S. O. MEDLIN

Route 3,
Monroe.

The Elegance of a Charleston Chigou

Raleigh News & Observer

Into three sections North Carolina may be divided but there is no such spiritual and social division of this state as exists between the Low-Country and the Upcountry of South Carolina. There the cleavage extends all the way from genealogy to spelling. Recently one of them brings the seeker to the headsman's block. Murder, on the other hand, if committed in the Negro interest, brings honor and reward, as in the case of the assassins of Dollivus, whose graves Hitler decorated, and of the Reuthen murderers, whom as Chancellor he released and recompensed.

What Crime Is Like in Germany

New York Times

For listening to foreign radio broadcasts and sharing with his neighbors the news he thus heard, a German has been sentenced as a "traitor." Other Germans languish in jail merely for listening to foreign news which the Nazi Government forbids them to hear because it contradicts the calumnies and optimistic lies put out by Nazi propaganda. This is the New Order that Hitler would substitute for the freedom enjoyed under democracy. To seek facts and share knowledge of them brings the seeker to the headsman's block. Murder, on the other hand, if committed in the Nazi interest, brings honor and reward, as in the case of the assassins of Dollfuss, whose graves Hitler decorated, and of the Reuthen murderers, whom as Chancellor he released and recompensed.

In Which a Lady Lays Down the Law

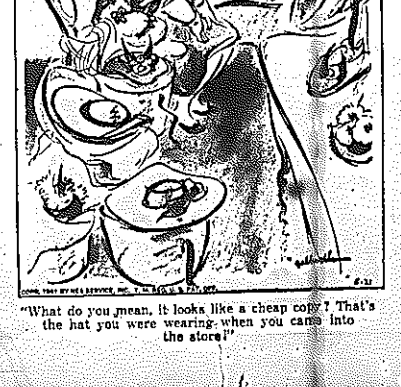
Dave Sink, Lexington Dispatch

I was in an adjoining room and the colored cook had just finished carefully—for her—cleaning the living room, when in marched the cachshund, evil gleam in his eye, and began sniffing around the chairs. She glowered at him. "I jus' da'as yuh," I heard her threaten darkly, "I jus' da'as yuh to hist that laig in heah!"

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given men, whereby we must be saved. Acts 4:12.

Side Glances



"What do you mean, it looks like a cheap copy? That's the hat you were wearing when you came into the store!"

Argentine Visitor

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON—American officials are pleased with the visit to Washington of the new Argentine Foreign Minister, Senor Ruiz Guinazu, and believe that he goes to take his new post as a friend of the United States.

Because of the importance of Argentina in the Latin-American family, the attitude of its foreign minister is a matter of consequence as was implied in the elaborate program arranged for him in Washington. This included luncheon at the White House, dinners, receptions, and many private discussions with high-ranking officials.

The impression which the Argentine Foreign Minister made upon officials served to discount some of the reports which had been circulated as to his pro-Axis sympathies.

AXIS PLAYED HARD TO WIN HIM OVER

These reports are put down as inconsistent with the attitude which he manifested here.

The new Argentine Foreign Minister has not been in his own country for several years. He served at Geneva as representative at the League of Nations and then became Argentina's diplomatic representative at the Vatican. Before leaving Europe, he was royally entertained in Italy, France, Spain and Portugal. Axis representatives made every effort to win him over to a policy of co-operation with their purposes in South American.

But it should be remembered that the foreign minister is an active Catholic layman and worked closely with the Vatican. In that capacity he became thoroughly familiar with the Nazi treatment of the church and of Catholics in occupied countries. Some of these chapters left bitter feelings.

HE LOOKS OUT FOR ARGENTINA FIRST

It is probably true that German efficiency, seen at such close range, made its impression. Also it probably is true that he is keeping in mind the fact that in his country are a large number of Italians and Germans. Third, he is, as are all Latin-Americans, intensely nationalistic and he is pro-Argentine first of all.

But he has given the impression here of being a fundamental believer in democracy, anxious to see it preserved, and fearful of the consequences of totalitarian rule as he has observed them among persecuted people of his own faith in Europe.

At any rate, the Argentine Foreign Minister was received here with the utmost frankness and cordiality. The net impression of his visit was that he will take up his post fully conscious of the importance of preserving the security of the Western Hemisphere from foreign encroachment.

CONGRESS IS STILL INTENT ON POLITICS

Our relations with Argentina have been difficult, and it has not been alone the fault of Argentina. Naturally, because of her position in South America, Argentina has considered that she is the bellwether of Latin America and has often set herself in opposition to the leadership of the United States in Pan-American conferences, though more often in details than in fundamentals. On our side we have made Argentine beef a political football. Congress seldom overlooks an opportunity to play politics with this issue. Political candidates kick it around on the stump as Wendell Willkie did last year.

This is the time when more important considerations should prevail over cattle-country politics. Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming and some of the leaders of the livestock industry have recognized this and have tried to strike a more reasonable position which would not leave the cattle industry unprotected but which would ease the emotional tension in Argentina.

In the period ahead we shall be obliged to make many concessions and to give aid which, if considered in a vacuum we would oppose, but which considered in the world setting that exists, serve larger ends vital to the whole family of the Western Hemisphere.

Visitin' Around

Sounds Kind of Nice, At That

(37 Years Ago,
Transylvania Times)

The corn popping held at the home of E. B. Clayton last Friday night was greatly enjoyed by the young people of that section.

Maybe This Will Straighten It Out With Her

(Parr Item,
Winnsboro News-Herald)

Mr. Benjamin Yarborough visited Columbia College Friday evening. Mr. Paul Regenfuse intended to but was unavoidably detained.