

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 1941

Do Something Time Has Come To Stop Plawering and Proceed

The roar of pursuit planes from the Air Base flying high over Charlotte these mornings is thrilling to hear. Like silver fishes seen deep in some inverted clear pool, the ships are almost indistinguishable far up there in the clouds, yet the hum of their engines and the wash of the wind through their propellers make a blanket of sound which smotherers lesser earth noises.

They are power incarnate, these pursuers of the Army Air Corps, flown by lean-cut young Americans as a sort of developing challenge to those who are the world, and who would enslave the world. They represent a fraction of the might of the United States, our country. They should give us something of a proprietary interest in these planes for our defense.

But look. They fly, these young officers from a field that is inadequate, hence plainly hazardous. Their pursuit ships are fast, need a bountiful margin of runway for safety.

The base itself crowds the leased land on which it is built. The 2,000 or so soldiers out there, active young men, have no recreation, no field.

Enlargement of the Air Base, which would be quite likely, is declined without the provision of additional land by the City of Charlotte of an agency thereof.

From a standpoint of simple good business, it would be advantageous for the city if the Air Base were enlarged and improved. At the end of the emergency, it would get back as good an airport as there was in the country. In the beginning, the expenditure of some \$50,000 would produce the expenditure by the Government of a million dollars. Two millions, three millions. And the city would retain title to it all.

From a standpoint of patriotism, security, pride in having an air base, cooperation with the Air Corps should be forthcoming without dissent, spontaneously.

The plain truth, however, is that it has not been forthcoming. The excuse of inability is not enough. If we want to do what so plainly we should want to do, the time has come to do it, to discontinue this vexing Gordian knot of possibilities, simply by cutting through it and taking the consequences, whatever they may be.

Profits North American Aviation Is Rolling in Them

It took the Army to persuade workers at the North American Aviation plant to go back to work, but no such show of force should be needed to convince the National Mediation Board that the company can spare a few wage increases. In fact, North American has been cleaning up an enormous amount of profits during the last two years.

Here are the facts and figures as reported to the Securities and Exchange Commission and printed in the Congressional Record.

In 1940 the net worth of North American, the total valuation of the whole works, was estimated at \$12,366,590.

During the same year the company made a net profit (after deducting depreciation, all taxes, and the like) of \$7,090,325.78.

The original cost of shares in North American was \$1. They are currently quoted on the New York Stock exchange at about \$14 a share.

During 1940 stockholders (including General Motors, which owns about 26 per cent of the stock) received a dividend of \$1.25 per share.

J. H. Kindlerberg, president of the company, received a salary totaling \$166,250 during 1940. The vice president, J. L. Attwood, received \$78,333.33.

Any way you look at it, North American appears to be the first cousin to a millionaire.

What about the salaries of workers? The minimum hourly wage is 50 cents. For the entire aviation industry the going rate, according to labor sources is 62 cents. Automobile factory workers are known to be getting generally higher wages than the workers in the aviation industry.

building a plane than in making an automobile. On this evidence it looks as though North American workers may be entitled to wage increases.

From a national viewpoint, of course, wages were not the paramount issue in the strike. Crux of the whole ugly situation was whether any group of men should be allowed to override the Government and ignore the legal processes of mediation. The President put his foot down on that insurrection.

North American workers have the right to discuss wages and to make demands for increases.

But while those demands are in process of mediation, the planes must continue to roll from the line.

Bull Market Trade-In Allowances Fade For New Car Buyers

This week one Charlottean who just previously had been offered \$500 for his old car on a trade-in went back to the same dealer to see if he could do better. He couldn't. The dealer offered him an allowance of \$400 and added that he couldn't guarantee that figure longer than 24 hours.

Multiple instances by several hundred dealers and the result of a threatened new car shortage in Charlotte begins to take shape.

The same thing is happening everywhere in the nation. OPM is asking a reduction of 50 per cent in automobile output next year. Charlotte dealers say they don't expect more than a 25 or 30 per cent cut but point out that even a 10 per cent cut would make the demand for new cars greatly exceed the output. The result: Everybody seems to be trying to get a new car while they can be had; allowances on used cars are being reduced to no more than the used cars are worth; dealers have given up their old technique of working for a quick sale—they are taking their time and picking their trades.

Reckoning Joe Stalin Wakes Up With A Dagger at His Throat

As it must to all who go to bed with Adolf Hitler, the rude awakening came this week to Joe Stalin. The inscrutable Russian, who now appears to have been not so inscrutable, awoke to find a Nazi dagger at his throat and hordes of invaders on his front porch. The day of reckoning is at hand and Joe Stalin's nerves are many.

It was this same Stalin who kicked the able Litzinov out of his foreign ministry and thrust in Molotov. It was Stalin, working through Molotov, who engineered the pact between the Soviet and Germany.

Stalinists agree that but for this foul treaty, Germany would never have begun the invasion of Poland. The red blood of war guilt is caked on the hands of Joseph Stalin.

But now the awakening—and those followers of the Communist Party line again must face the second shattering blow as their filthy pretense in less than 24 months.

If Germany and the Soviet are not now at war, they are on the very brink of it. Russia, it appears, must surrender the Ukraine or fight. As far as America and Britain are concerned, nothing would be more pleasing than a Russo-German war with plenty of damage on both sides.

As for the argument between Joe and Adolf, it must be going something like this:

"But Adolf, I swear, you cannot do this to me. Remember, we have the treaty of non-aggression!"

"Get out of my sight, Joseph. Have you not read in Mein Kampf, where I say Germany must have the Ukraine, or starve?"

We can remember when a billion could only have something to do with the mileage to a star.

A psychiatrist says the rookie who is continually any won't do in the army. For one thing, it bails up the payoff in the barracks stud game.

A Nazi decree forbids the further use of iron or steel in building metropetraps. This will be O. K. if one hasn't already eaten the cat.

Pressure For War

By Hugh S. Johnson

WASHINGTON—The principal development after an extensive journey through the Middle-West, South and Pacific Coast country, is to get back to the East and, by speaking in the recent weeks, and commentaries, missed on (naval, economic and even political) of the extreme pressure on our Air-Force for immediate action in shooting down the enemy.

Of course, you don't have to cross the continent to get a smell of that. There is hardly a regular radio commentary, either commercial or sustaining programs whose editorial aides and coloring of the news day which bears in that direction. There is almost none whose output has been in the other direction.

Case in point is a very short column in New York that even our President and State Department, receive the endorsement of a two-ocean war with a one-ocean navy, are being prodded and criticized for not making a more far-reaching action at once.

What do most of these pundits know about the actual, military, economic and even political values involved and their bearing on the fundamental welfare and security of this country?

THE "PERIPHERALS" CAN'T KNOW AS MUCH AS THE GOVERNMENT. They can't possibly know a fraction of what the Government knows. That is no cause for jubilation. It is something to be thankful for.

In this mess the less the people will know about the truth of situations on which decisions are being made. The average commentator—whether for war-like intervention or against it—will never know. Nobody can explain that gloomy prospect.

But, remembering that they know so little about these fearful values and apparently care so little about the convictions and sentiment of the country, it is not surprising, after even a short absence from the East, is to observe the length to which we would interpreters of news and events have gone in so short a time—to long a distance, and apparently, also, beyond the American Government.

Certainly the politicians and most of the pressmen assured our people that the lease-lend bill was a measure to help us win the war. It has meant far to create that impression. Most Americans might cross their fingers at the assurance of lesser people, or even of the communist priest-hood, but they couldn't afford to do that. The lease-lend bill was pitching them a curve. In that confidence the lease-lend bill was passed.

The ink was hardly dry on its signature before the warriors were crying for an immediate cavalry charge in headlong action—whether or not the people might, by that, be shocked to learn that they had been deceived.

ADMINISTRATION IS STEERING A RESPONSIBLE COURSE. It begins to look as though the Administration, under its present responsibility, with better information and, perhaps, a better feel for the pulse of the people, is a greater respect, first for its own representation and second for the heaviest of its responsibilities. Its ultimate defense of the security and welfare of the American people.

There is an old cynical political saying that the people like to be deceived. It may be true that they admire the work of clever political tight-rope walkers and artists of the flying trapeze. But nobody likes to be led to and, of, against his own interest by insincere promises and assertions. That is the real interest of the landholder that swept Mr. Roosevelt into office in 1932.

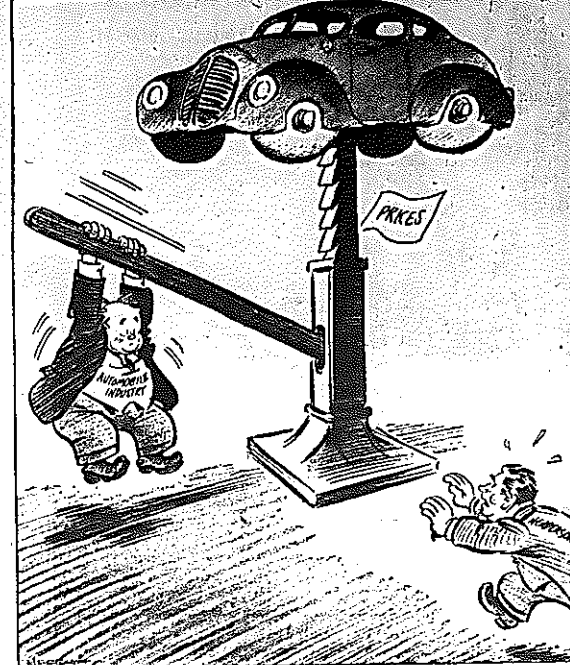
While I have somewhat been satistically right in judging that elusive thing called popular opinion, I have also been so suspiciously wrong that I set more guns every year. Just the same, after this trip, I will hazard a guess that there is a widespread and growing feeling in this country that we have been deceived, bamboozled, hoodwinked and deceived into an unnecessarily dangerous position on the one hand, and not sufficiently or promptly enough prepared for the real dangers of our future, and deceived about that, too.

Whimsey of Disaster

Charlotte, S. C. News & Courier: Did you ever hear, in the solemn night, a horse whinnying in the distance? It was a disturbing noise. If at midnight we should hear a horse whinny in Charlotte, we would think that sudden disaster had overtaken a hundred automobile horns and radio sets.

Getting Air-Minded in the Wrong Way

By Herbert



Letters to the Editor: State-Restricted Unions

Dear Sir:

I've wondered for quite some time how the states of our United States don't take individual action on the labor organizations. I've wondered what I believe to be the attitude of the union at Holy Ridge, N. C. and don't approve of same. I think that if each state would legislate to the effect that all labor or similar organizations shall be confined within the limits of that state. That each union have headquarters within that state that is resident, and that it shall not become affiliated in any way with any organization of its kind or similar to it, nor take orders from or issue to such organizations, outside of said state, or territories of United States. That upon conviction of violation of these statutes the responsible head of each organization shall be sentenced to imprisonment for some stiff sentence that would cause a person or body to think twice before trying to usurp power from our national government.

Of course there are many pro and con to this matter, but I think it should be constitutional, and it should be established Standard Oil was once legislated against in a similar manner, to keep them from concentrating wealth from many states in one state. —PAUL WOODY, 319 Adams Street, Laurinburg, N. C.

Danger of Decrease in Southern Dogs

Dear Sir: Dogs are in danger and may become as rare in the South as the horse or even the dogo has been coming increasingly difficult to raise a dog, and if raised, he has to be watched and protected against man-made menaces such as the mule, tin cans and new diseases. But perhaps the chief danger is that the dog has ceased to pay his own way. Game has declined, cattle are now grazed and the Soudy chicken comes from cold storage instead of the old-time homestead, so often raised.

To add to the dog's price-time perils, war comes and thousands of his best friends go to war or work; families are here today and gone tomorrow, and but few are willing to give time and attention to the dog.

But the straw that breaks his back is the periodic cry of "man dog". A child is bitten! Of course the dog has to be muzzled to make new dogs in an end, get muzzled and some slav mad but the dread hydrophobia is a real thing, once introduced by the death rate from

a thousand other causes and is not worth human hysteria.

French once offered \$200 for the best way to keep a man in good temper and at home from getting mad and developing running feet. The answer was "fed the brute". This applies to most animals and today, with increased food, at a cost of three cents a day, plus a few scraps, a dog can be well fed. The two other essentials are to keep the flea off and the worms out of him. Do this and it is safe to say that there will not be many mad or bad tempered dogs in the South, and little children can go on persecuting, peeing and loving them, and in answer to many a child's anxious inquiry, "Is there a Heaven for dogs?" "High up in the courts of Heaven. A little dog angel waits. With the other angels he will not play." But he sits waiting at the gates. —LINDSAY RUSSELL, Wilmington.

A Matter Of Information

Dear Sir: Could you kindly tell me what year the railroad was built from Monroe, N. C. to Charlotte, N. C. And what name did it go by then? I am enclosing stamped and addressed envelope for reply. Thank you in advance, for this information. Yours Very Truly, W. HARKEY, 1417 Oak Avenue, Sanford, Fla.

(We could probably find out, but won't somebody tell us?—Editors, This News)

"Open Letter" Policy at Church

Dear Sir: In a recent issue of that splendid magazine, The State, printed and published at Raleigh by Mr. Carl

Goerch, there appeared a half page picture of "The Church With the Open Door" located in the outskirts of Charlotte on the Thrift Highway. Mr. Goerch's first impulse was to offer a prize to the reader who could tell what was wrong with the picture, but on second thought he decided not to make the offer. It was just as well. The answer was "fed the brute". The Church With the Open Door had its doors shut—not only shut, but I am told, they are always padlocked. Evidently Mr. Goerch did not consider the term in its deeper meaning, but, as Lum and Abner would say, took the name "literary."

—C. R. AUSTIN, Charlotte.

Introducing These Draft Board Blues

Sam Craft in The Belmont Banner: The writer has decided to break down and die to the world out of his masterpieces of rhyme. Inspired by Mr. Crumpton's draft board in the post office cellar, writing to be to music. THOSE DRAFT BOARD BLUES: Draft board, draft board, I hear you calling me. Sign up, you son-of-a-gun. We're going to Tennessee. Uncle Sammy's bugle call is in my soul, my bones. Hear him calling: "Come on, boys. Go to leave your homes." Knapsacks, revolve. First Lieutenants, lead: I'm off by Joe tomorrow morn. To don them army shoes. Left, right, mount the guns! Can't do what you choose. Oh, I've got 'em. Till they hurt. I mean them Draft Board Blues.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

What do we more than others?—Matt 5:4.

Side Glances



"Look at J. B. cooking mud fishes—he'd always the first to send back a plate in a restaurant if it isn't spotless!"

No Peace With Nazis

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON—Every scrap of available evidence here tells this one story: It tells of a determination by the German Government to continue to fight until it is a President Roosevelt put it in his hands to the White House correspondents' scribble against local victory now.

This determination won't be changed by anything Hitler can do in the way of offering to "end the war" on the basis of a new order on the Continent. Indeed, the stronger the olive-branch hints from Berlin become, the more aggressive this Government appears to be. We are entrencing against any possible peace offer, just as Churchill has done within the last few days by his high never to make peace with Hitler.

FUNK SAYS THERE'S ROOM

THIS WORLD'S TRUTH is the Minister of Economics, Walter Funk, is publishing the idea that our system and the German system can live side by side. He is advancing the thought that a totalitarian Europe can still be a profitable market for the Western Hemisphere. Other German sources say with the suggestion that there would still be a place for gold in international trade with a totalitarian Europe. These ideas find some echo in the United States among opponents of the Administration policy.

But the temper of this government is revealed as completely hostile to the utterances of responsible officials there is not the faintest sign of compromise, but the contrary. Under Secretary of War Patterson tells a graduating class that it is tolerably safe to predict that this will be a long war. Secretary of State Hull warns the French people that general acquiescence of Hitlerism would set the world back five to ten centuries.

BRITISH OPENING NEW PROPAGANDA AGENCY

This Government's actions are even more revealing than his words. At the very moment when the British are setting up a new and more efficient propaganda service in this country, the German Government has ordered all German consulates to be closed by July 10. The State Department order also calls for the withdrawal of German propaganda agencies—the German Library of Information, the Trans-German News Service, which is selling subsidized news or giving it away in Latin America, and the German Tourist Agency, which, having no budget to encourage, has nothing to do but spread propaganda. The State Department said the consulates were expected to be dismantled and the scope of their legitimate functions, and that their continued presence was inimical to the welfare of this country.

Thus we are striking hard at German listening posts and centers of German propaganda, throwing them out of official nature out of the country completely. This action followed closely the order freezing Axis funds. That means impounding all bank accounts, safe boxes, patent and royalty collections, and every other kind of property belonging to Axis citizens. The Government and the banks will work closely together in hunting down concealed Axis funds, with the expectation of discovering hidden sources of German propaganda activities if nothing worse. We are not breaking relations, strained though they are. The German Embassy here is not officially affected.

STATE DEPARTMENT FINALLY TAKES ACTION

These actions bring to an end a long period of division within this Government. They have been advocated for a long time by Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau as well as by the British. The State Department has hesitated to act. Only ten weeks ago Secretary Morgenthau, when asked how his campaign for freezing Axis funds was coming along, commented bitterly to the effect that the barn was now practically empty, meaning that most of the Axis funds had been spent or otherwise into concealment. The State Department had opposed action on the ground that it would invite retaliation, as it did within twenty-four hours in Italy, where bank accounts of Americans were impounded.

But most significant of all, the War Department is urging OPM to cut automobile production 50 per cent. A drastic step of that kind would be indisputable proof that this Government was digging in for a long, long haul.

Visitin' Around

Stepp Walks (Hooper's Creek Item, Hendersonville Times-News). Mr. H. Stepp had the misfortune to lose his horse recently. Blessed Event (Oak Grove Item, Lexington Dispatch). Howard Owen has a nice new car this Spring.