

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Anarchy

America First Committee Is Against It On Principle

Mr. Sumner Welles, the Acting Secretary of State, must have choked and gurgled over his coffee yesterday morning when he learned that the American First Committee had called him an exponent of international anarchy. The Committee denounced, furiously and in capital letters, Mr. Welles' abandonment of the Japanese for moving into Indo-China.

Long-growers shall enjoy war-time prices, and hang the consequences. Those consequences, however, look pretty serious. In cotton-raising, next year's possibilities are in direct proportion to the year's prices. Low prices, a short crop; good prices, a bumper crop. And with a bumper crop for 1942 plus undiminished Federal stores, cotton ed is going to have to fix 'em again next year, and the next and the next.

Buy A Bond But Don't Expect That To Lacer Your Taxes

Judging by the reports we get, Defense Savings Bonds and Stamps are selling at a very satisfactory rate. They ought to be. It is a series of free newspaper space, the hours of free radio time, the gratis work by banks and their employees, and the cheerfully offered services of thousands of volunteer salesmen, coupled with Uncle Sam's reputation as a sound investment, can put the campaign across. We are as pleased about this as any other American citizens because we know that our Government needs the money in this time of national peril.

Yet there is one line of reasoning, upon which Secretary Morgenthau and the Treasury Department are leaning rather heavily, that is as phony as a lead nickel. The American public is being told: "The more bonds you buy, the less you will be taxed; the more money raised by borrowing, the less need be raised by taxation."

Fiction A Tale, Told by Reynolds, Fall of Sound and Hoop

In the Military Affairs Committee, Senator Robert Rice Reynolds, North Carolina's unfortunate visitation upon the United States Senate, stands alone and against the resolution to keep the Army from disintegrating. As chairman of the committee, Reynolds again will be obliged to introduce a measure which he opposes. Again he will be forced to appoint some other Senator to lead the fight for enactment.

Here are the words of the chairman of the Military Affairs Committee of the United States Senate: "I do not believe that our national interest is imperilled or will be imperilled since the armies of the world are apparently destroying one another."

Of all the stupid, short-sighted-yes, ignorant-statements that have been made in the last decade, this takes the prize. It is difficult to believe that the most important committee in the Senate is headed by a man who believes, or who says he believes, that this country has nothing to worry about because the bad nations are going to eat up each other.

False Friend Cotton Ed Only Postpones Showdown Over Cotton

"This" said Cotton Ed Smith, "ought to fix 'em!" "This" was the attachment to a bill for the consideration of the chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee of a rider to prevent the Government from selling any of the ten or eleven million bales of cotton on which it has made loans, some of which have been shared away, deteriorating and piling up warehouse charges for years. The trade swears that the large part of this cotton is unspinnable and unusable except for the coarsest processes of cotton manufacture. Be that as it may, this great store of cotton overhangs the market and always will so long as it is in existence. Now Cotton Ed is determined that cot-

Defense Chaos

By Hugh S. Johnson

DO you know why the donation of further all-out powers to the Administration should not be by declaration of national emergency? It should not be by a limited authority to keep draftees, National Guardsmen and Reservists in the service by a technical statement, that the "national interest is imperilled" in strict accordance with the law. An overhead organization at Washington has been set up with no aptitude for unlimited powers. General Marshall said that he does not want any "political club" in the army petitioning Congress to influence legislation—and he is absolutely right. The Army can't be a debating society. But he is completely alien and unresponsive to the National Guard and Reserve Associations which operate, outside the Army, to advance the interests of particular components regardless of the interests of the whole—and the results they are getting are destroying the morale of the army.

HENDERSON SHORT-CIRCUITS UNCLE SAM'S OPINION Leon Henderson short-circuits and by-passes Bill Knudsen and OPAT by ordering 50 per cent reduction in automobile production without consulting OPAT and says he has as much authority as Knudsen. Mr. Henderson had in 1938. That is not true. Mr. Knudsen has not only control over price and civilian supply subject to continuous supervision of prices itself by the President, but also control of priorities, commandeering and conservation. They all go together. Mr. Henderson has them not.

Priority, commandeering and control of transportation what gave Mr. Knudsen his power. Without some combination of them the job can't be done. Everything except price control is under Mr. Knudsen, if anybody. They all must be used in co-operation. A result of the present chaos is a tragic interruption of production and a threat to civilian supplies. The business—the backbone of our economic system which this column has constantly predicted would be a certain liberalized and terrifying to the whole country. Realistic reorganization of this mess is a number one on our order of business.

Son-of-a-Gun

The New Yorker has a good deal of incompetent legend ingrained about the subject of naval dress. For instance, a certain liberalized weekly picture magazine which we will call Death said lately that the uniforms of the British and American navies started as mourning for the death of Nelson. The remarkable fact is that the neckerchiefs were in use long before Lord Nelson died. The neckerchiefs were a traditional piece of keeping the sailors' neck warm and were black so as to show dirt.

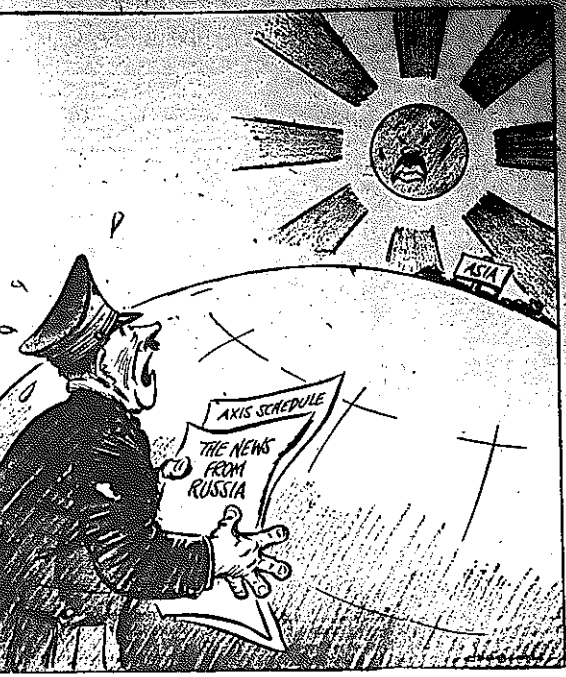
The three lines of tape trimming the collars of American and British uniforms are what we have commemorated Nelson's victories—the Battles of the Baltic, the Nile and Trafalgar. The stripes adopted by the British in 1857 for no other reason than that they thought it looked better.

However, if you were interested you, we can give you the explanation of the long collar of the navy blouse—an anachronism, all right. Back in the days when sailors had pigstails and mud let out time to keep them afloat, they wore a sort of apron to protect their blouses from the tar. The pigstails are gone but the collar is still there.

The present American naval uniform goes back to the British and that goes back to 1740, when the story is a little strange. The officers met in a coffee house and decided to petition the Admiralty for standardized uniforms. At the time, the officers were designing their own and the enlisted men were wearing anything they could get their hands on. The idea was OK'd and certain officers were asked to appear in suitable uniform. A Capt. Philip Saumarez won the approval of the Admiralty with a blue-and-white combination.

This is purely by the way, but the "son of a gun" has its origin in the British navy. In the old days, women enthusiastically called the heavy stock naval vessels while they were in port. One of these women was a little strange, some what over-due, and the ship's surgeon asked the captain to send her to the hospital. The captain let her go with his port battery, and she was called "son of a gun" now softened by long usage, was originally pretty bad.

"Get Hot, Brother!"



Letters to the Editor: One Draftee Speaks His Mind

Editors, The News: The attitude of the writer of "The Draft" in yesterday afternoon's paper is typical of that of the bystander who says without thinking, "Sure, keep the drafters just as long as we can use the excuse of a national emergency to do it!"

I wonder if he has ever stopped to consider the case from the standpoint of the draftee—the man who is really involved in the present system. He is asked to give up his job and most of the rights and privileges that he has considered his right to enjoy, to no longer be able to make his own plans, to be separated from the ones he loves over a period of one year. This hits hard, as it is, doesn't it? But when one is not assured by being released in one year that makes it still harder.

After all men from 21-28 are human beings. You are taking a year of their lives and using it for the service of their country and your (the bystander's) convenience. Remember we are carrying all many of us do have jobs that pay us more than \$21 a month and many of us have mortgages that we'd like to marry and many of us like to look into and plan the future.

Couldn't the draftee be called back into service pretty quickly in case of supreme national emergency, and let a year a fairly good length of time for basic training? If you must say "Keep the draftee because the national emergency is so great, don't leave him on the side from the draftee's standpoint, but when you make your decision as to what should be done, remember we are carrying rather heavily our share for the emergency. It is easy for you who are not involved to stand by and say, "Sure, keep them in!"

Motion (At the request of the writer, who signed his name to the original letter, we are not identifying him. After all, we gather that he will be in the Army soon and is therefore entitled a last request. We will him a hearty breakfast—Editors, The News.)

"... All the People ... All the Time" Editors, The News: If you are going to continue that "Inquiring Reporter" column for such a conspicuous column, it would suggest more cosmopolitan

questions, questions an adult might feel some pride in answering, or I would discontinue it altogether. It sounds like a column run by the girl-friend of the editor of a high school paper. I'm sure you will take this in the right spirit. No kidding, that columnist's wife.

—JOHN FOSTER WEST 620 Walnut Street, Charlotte.

(Note: The "Inquiring Reporter" strives for a change of pace—Editors, The News.)

Retaction to An Editorial

Editors, The News: We thank you heartily for the splendid editorial which appeared in your issue of July 15, referring to our 40th Anniversary folder that we sent out.

You were very kind to think of us and your complimentary remarks are an encouragement to all of us here. Please accept our kindest wishes in return, for your good health and happiness for many years to come.

—W. H. WOOD, President, The American Trust Company, Charlotte.

Pots and Pans For Uncle Sam

Editors, The News: Bring a pot or pan for Uncle Sam, and throw it in the pile. And more you are true to the Red, White and Blue in real AMERICAN style. Old pots and pans that you would throw away now that they've served their duty. If it's but a mite, it will help the fight of the pilots of the U. S. A.

Don't scrape and stink, don't foster

ered when asked to do your part. Your gift is blessed when you free it from the bottom of your heart. Its better so, some good you do, and do not long delay. They do not ask for pots that are new, but those that you'd throw away.

So bring them in to your district bin and add to the worthy pile. Old pots that have cooked a thousand meals in good old Southern style. Old kettles that have sung on the fire between and pans with their gravy brown. Just pass and say, as they go their way, they came from Charlotte town.

—JESSIE RANKIN SEDGWICK, Charlotte, N. C.

A Summer Ending For a Sermon

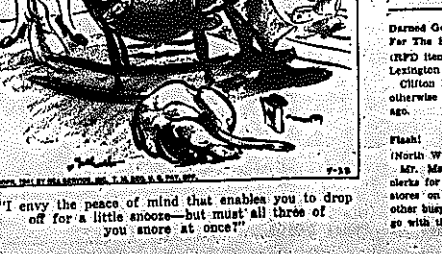
Fete Day in the Whistler-Salem Seaside. Some folks were talking the other day about people going to sleep in church and certain pastors preaching dogmatically on the fact of general complacency in this hot summer weather. It was reminiscent of a sermon down east years ago, when on an especially warm Sunday morning the preacher saw several people nodding, and some actually dozing.

He didn't wait for the closing hymn of a benediction or anything. He stopped in the middle of his sermon and said, "Church is over. All of you can go home now."

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.—Matt. 9:37.

Side Glances



"I envy the peace of mind that enables you to drop off for a little snooze—but must all three of you snore at once!"

The Japanese... It is an enormous task Japan has been tempted by it for years, now when the British have their bases elsewhere, and Japan has been able to be on the alert in the Atlantic. Japan bridged the weak Vichy Government which obligingly gave her and allows Japan to occupy the important military vantage points in the French possession of Indo-China.

NEW JAPAN MUST BE WATCHED CONSTANTLY This Japan has plained herself down toward the lower end of the Malay peninsula. She occupies the position from which she can attack in three directions—the Philippines, Singapore, and the Burma source of supply of China. Japan is now jumping the hurdle which has thus far kept her at a secondary threat. She has been less than far away to get at the Philippines or direct requiring daily watching. Japan is three hours by bombers from the Philippines and Singapore. Furthermore the Philippines lies on the flank of the new Japanese position and Japan will attempt to reduce this danger in her line of communication.

As President Roosevelt said in commenting on the latest Japanese move, the United States has tried for two years to appease Japan. We have allowed her to obtain oil from some sources. She has been able to get about 60 per cent of Japan's oil has come from the United States. As President Roosevelt says, if we had cut off the oil, Japan probably would have used it as a reason for attacking the Dutch East Indies. If this appeasement had been in vain, it did not in the end prevent it.

ALL HOPE OF RESPONSE TO GOLDEN RULE DIES We know now that such hopes are in vain. The golden rule is a great working principle of life—if others will respond to it. But it has worked so poorly in this period that it has come to be known definitely as appeasement.

The golden rule is regarded by Germany, Italy and Japan as a kind of goody, false mixture of timidity, weakness and simple-mindedness. Japan was obtaining raw materials from the United States and the East Indies, sufficient not only for her own use but, as has long been suspected here, with a margin for secret shipment to Germany. Our officials have long believed that Japan was acting as a stooge for Germany in rubber.

WE HAVE BEEN TOO GOOD TO THE JAPANESE Japan has been well treated. Beginning with the Washington Arms Conference, the United States and Great Britain tried to work out a joint course of interest with Japan. We were munificently generous. We were in a position to wage a naval race but we held to a 8-1 ratio and did not even try to build our quota. We agreed not to fortify positions in the Western Pacific which could menace Japan. Only Navy request was denied Japan because we did not wish to offend Japan. Later we were compelled to change our position and go ahead.

Tokyo has no complaint. Japan started this rampage of aggression by her attack on Manchukuo. She was allowed to get away with it. Then Italy and Germany decided they, too, could undertake aggression with impunity. The trail of this whole series of conquests leads back to Japanese initiative. Yet through it all the Western Powers have been so anxious to avoid war, they have been so timid as to be the spoiled child of the Far East.

In view of this history, it must be recognized that sooner or later the day of reckoning will come.

Visitin' Around

Darred Good Arm For The Shape It's In (RFD Item, Lexington Dispatch) Clifton Berrier fell and fractured an otherwise mighty good arm a few days ago. Flash! (North Wilkesboro Enquirer) Dr. M. M. Roberge and his clerks for one of the department chain stores on Main Street (Saturdays and other busy days, will probably be one to go with the 4-H school picnic party.