

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

*And Evening Chronicle*

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1940

## Smoked Out

### New York Nazi Case Ought To Lead to Law Changes

In New York Magistrate Charles G. Keuthe dismisses Dr. Matthias Schmitz, director of the German Library of Information, a notorious Nazi propaganda agency in this country which is engaged in trying to kill the United States in sleep by painting its master as a gentle giant who does good. It floods newspaper offices—including our own—and thousands of private mail boxes with its gigantic releases. All designed to the sole purpose of sucking us until the cobra is ready to strike.

For his pains the magistrate will be denounced by 4,000 per cent patriots as a Nazi on his own account. But he did entirely right. The Nazi produced a document from the German Embassy in Washington saying that he was a diplomatic agent of the German Government. And so as our law stands the magistrate could do nothing legally but fire him. And as the magistrate said, we cannot fight Hitlerism by throwing out our own laws.

However, there is no reason that the law should stay as it is. Everybody knew already that the outfit was an agent of the German Government but now, fact is indisputable. In point of truth, it is well known that the German diplomats in this country are styled to incredible proportions—so that there are at least twenty of them as many members of it as could have any legitimate business here. These extra members are all engaged in subversive activities of one kind or another. And as a sovereign nation, we do not have to submit to that. It is our right to limit the number and kind of persons who will be accepted and granted diplomatic immunity, and the matter should be attended to at once.

## Times On Edge

### It Leads Off With a Paramount Assumption

In its three-column editorial announcing its support of Mr. Wilkie, The New York Times marshals strong arguments against the re-election of President Roosevelt. These are principally that Mr. Roosevelt is failing the country with adequate national defense although both "are of the world," hence trustworthy as foreign policy.

Nothing is said yet about men—about pilots and skilled seamen and soldiers. But that is bound to follow if the Committee carries its aid to Britain to the logical end of enabling her to overcome whatever odds of German and Italian power are massed against her.

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Whether this country shall fight Britain if it alone, giving her additional support and minor assistance, appears safe, or shall pitch in with the whole in common cause against a common enemy, is a decision that we should not care to have to make. But this much appears to be possible that if we want to aid Britain, the manner in which that should be done is openly, in bulk and now, and not on the installment plan from critical time to critical time.

of trifling people who have no visible means of support and who refuse jobs which they are able to fill is understandable. Entirely so. In fact, that is one of the prime reasons the great body of people in this country will never grow fully reconciled in the relief of the abled-bodied.

We know how the Sheriff feels, and can sympathize with the reason for his threat. But you can't make 'em work if they don't want to, for that would be forced labor. You used to be able to tell 'em to go ahead and starve, diagnoz 'em, but you can't do that any more. Not with much effect, anyhow, for too well they know that no matter whether they want work and can't get it or can get it and don't want it somebody will feed 'em indiscriminately.

## The 25 Bombers

### Another Installment of Proposed Aid to Britain

Every now and again a phrase takes on so much meaning and significance that, standing by itself, it speaks volumes. "Munich" for example. Or "the 50 deviators."

The proposal to send the 50 deviators in Britain began, as far as the record shows, as a project of the Committee, headed by William Allen White, to defend America by allying the Allies. Well-heeled with patriotism, military counsel and... Judge by the appearance and frequency of its broadsides—money, this committee exerts its influence through local organizations scattered over the country which respond to its appeals by writing the President, their Senators and Representatives.

And now that the 50 deviators are on their way, the White committee would follow them up with "25 Flying Fortresses." That too may become another historic phrase, covering not only this country's developing status as a bellwether but additional material of war with which the British may carry the fight to the enemy.

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## Off 42

### To Find Our Heelie, Hoys Look in 42nd Place

We have frequently commented on the distressing fact that, in any tabulation of the states in the order of their wealth, culture and facilities of education, North Carolina is to be found either second in 42nd place or hard by. So invariably does this turn out to be the case that we have come to speak of "Tar Heels though not without affection and understanding," as "Off 42."

On 42 she is though scrambling upwards as fast as determined spirit and the most bountiful natural resources can take her.

In the matter of hospitals, for example, you could never conceive that there is not some one augmented hospital to their credit, all built in part by patriotic individuals, and with a few exceptions of some 750 hospital beds, the people of this city may be pardoned for assuming that they alone have made so great an improvement in this respect as to bring up the average of the state as a whole.

It is not so. Before us lies a table showing the states the number of hospital beds per 10,000 population, and there, not in 42nd place this time, but in 46th sits North Carolina. But give her time.

We are living in an age in which the reply to the ancient query, "Can such things be?" is evidently,

## Shadow Over Us

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON.—The matter of throwing the spotlight of publicity upon German economic or German interest in American industry is receiving growing attention here. Once unknown to indicate that a considerable German interest in American industry amounts to nearly \$500,000,000, it is now known that corporation stockholders, managers and other interests such as banks and insurance companies much of it is covered up and there is even more mystery as to the use to which the property is put. Undoubtedly some of it is used to finance propaganda and to subsidize trade in Latin America. Since German citizens are considered the property of the Reich and subject to its orders, the question becomes more acute.

Senator Wheeler, Chairman of the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee, is seeking information from the State Department on the ramifications of German ownership. Study also is being given to the matter within the Administration.

ANOTHER TAUGHT THESE  
LITTLE BROTHERS THEIR DUTY

Interest arose partly from the episode in which the Baerle & Loeb Optical Co., which has close relations with the German Zeiss Co. and which holds a monopoly on certain patents for Navy equipment, was compelled to delay for six months delivery of large quantities of two new cutters required by the U.S. Bureau of Ordnance. Arnold Arnould, a Nazi, sought out the company against the company. Trust-Buster Arnold went to town and the company surrendered promptly to the Navy's stand-in.

The incident is one of those that prompted Senator Wheeler to call for a Senate investigation of the whole question of Germany's influence in American industry. In Germany, as in every country, there are certain foreign corporations exist a measure of control over some of our most important industries. German-owned banks have heavy holdings in certain essential production here.

### GERMANY SENDS NO FARNINGS TO AMERICA

Senator Wheeler desires to ferret out just foreign economic interests of which he may be ignorant. Some of these require American companies to supply all patients to their foreign interests. One arrangement may have required Germany to buy the American company of military articles manufactured, so that Germany may have been given a stranglehold over what was produced.

In Germany everyone must register with the Government every foreign country, patentee or other person holding a share of stock is subject to Government disposition. Under the German system, it is paid off cheap in marks and German marks are paid for the full value at this time and paid plus R to the mark. To allow the German to continue without some sort of control, the German Government would like to allow the German private foreign holdings to be used for special purposes by the German Government.

### WE SHOULD FEED NAZIS WITH OXIDON

There is a movement among Americans holding property in Germany. Germans from American corporations doing business in Germany are shocked and held them. The country is taken out of the country and can not use them for approved purposes.

The obvious course is for the American Government likewise to take the earnings of Germany in exchange for the German bonds held in America and to pay off Americans who cannot get their earnings out of Germany. It would be then that real fun begins.

What about the sale of these German earnings for propaganda and for subsidizing trade with America? We can't do that. We can't make emulators the registration of such property and to deposit the proceeds of the foreign receipts to pay off our foreign debts.

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But before legislation is undertaken, we should demand that the German Government be called to account for its secret investigation. The last German undeniably would see fit to present a

political purpose here.

### War in Our Time

R. F. Readley, Moore County News

One of the Negro spiritualists says, "I am a Christian, but I am a Negro. I remember when most of us thought that we would never talk war any more except for light skirmishes here and there. And then along comes Hitler and there goes the spirit."

That same spirit is now in the air. The world seems to be heading toward war, and as Ten said, "The world is heading toward war."

But a person now there sees more than a million men on one side of the Atlantic and a million men on the other. And not only has he seen enough war, but he has seen at least one of the largest and most terrible wars in history. He has seen a hundred years between the two great general European wars, a hundred years from the close of the Napoleonic wars to the outbreak of World War I. Yet it was but twenty years between the close of the First World War and the present one, and each of these is far worse than those of the Napoleonic period, principally because the world has become a matter of whole populations and not just the soldiers.

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## A News Pixeditorial

# A Line Forms Here



men coming to work (such as editors) can negotiate that intersection.

The silly part of it is that, with a simple twist of the wrist, the City's alleged Traffic Department could vastly facilitate the movement of traffic at this and other corners. Easiest thing to do would be to mark off two lanes coming up the hill, one for left-turns, the other for straight ahead or right-turns.

Or East Fourth Street could be made a one-way artery westward in the morning hours when traffic coming to town is heavy, and eastward when the homeward bound traffic takes over. But then that is a problem for traffic engineers to work on, of which this City, with plenty of traffic, has none.

## Letters to the Editor:

# Bogus Money Nazi Weapon?

Dear Sir:

Everyone has a guess as to what Hitler's secret weapon is and he is right.

Every country in the world has spies in Germany. If it is secret and important enough, it is safe to assume that it would have been sold to those men and women who, like me, want to do what they can to help you. You don't know how to go about it.

Go to the British War Relief Society, where you will be welcomed enthusiastically and gratefully and offered of time, strength, intelligence, etc. to help you. Funds were needed at once to cope with some hundred blinded men arriving from Dunkirk. The British War Relief Society, which had been formed to help the British, will be utilized in the most effective way. The results of your individual effort will be magnified by the efforts of the British War Relief Society.

Now since England is a country of immigrants, you will find that they are more numerous than in America. Any confusion in the monetary system would paralyze the entire economy.

There is a branch committee of the British War Relief in your community, go to it. If not, start one by writing to the National Headquarters at 335 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

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The British War Relief Society was organized in September, 1939, with the approval of the British Ambassador to co-ordinate organizations working for the welfare of the British people in America. Today there are 200 branches in the United States with over 300,000 contributors whose contributions total more than \$200,000.

Ambulances, surgical instruments, dressings and medicines, kitchen equipment, medical supplies, hospital beds, surgical bands, X-ray units and other medical equipment are sent to New York harbor after arrival from the British War Relief Society.

The society sends these supplies and comforts to the men of the fighting forces, to their wives and children, to the homeless thousands evacuated from their homes, to the streams of destitute refugees who poured

out of Spain, to the refugees from the Spanish Civil War.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shall have thyself a witness and a crown of glory.

Funny Business



"He always dresses like that when he starts his heavy drinking."

## A World In Decay

By Dorothy Thompson

AGAIN I say that the disaster to France came about because of the decay of a middle-class civilization whose values are no longer tenable.

Now, the recognition that the values are no longer tenable has been clear in the minds of most thinkers and of all artists and poets for a long time. The American literature of the last 30 years has consistently challenged them. Sinclair Lewis's ironic remark as a preface to "Main Street" needs repeating:

"Main Street is the climax of civilization. That this Ford car might stand in front of the Bon Ton after the war is inconceivable." Edmund Rex wrote in Cambridge clippings: "Our railroad station is the final aspiration of architecture. And when the station is over, is over is the envy of the four countries. In the sensitive art of the Rosedale Movie Palace there is a message, and a stirring of life."

### EVERYTHING ROLLS DOWN AND FALSE HERE

All our writers of imagination and sensitivity from Sinclair Lewis to John Galsworthy have been exposing decay. "Decadent" men, of course, did not listen to them. Nevertheless what they comprehended and articulated has haunted the mind of the people as a vague malaise, as a feeling of frustration.

The whole middle-class world is in a state of neutrals. While it gives lip-service to the values of the last 60 years, it is not convinced by the sound of its own voice. One has only to listen to Congressmen on the radio—that meet revealing of instruments—to know that most of them do not believe what they are saying.

One need not pick out the politicians for our special obloquy. Something false sounds through almost everything. It is particularly noticeable in the advertisements promising with uncouth earnestness to cure the sickness of our souls with a motor car, a tooth paste, or a perfume. The mania for buying gadgets and for constant change—color in the kitchen, a new shade of stockings, a new hair-do—goes along with a mania for new maths, for astrology or the mysticism of numbers. We revoking and redecorating to try to avoid the realization that the house is rotten, and we drive a car 60 miles an hour to persuade ourselves that our civilization is not stumbling still.

We suffer from a psychological insensitivity, induced by the lack of any convictions as to why we live on this earth, what our purpose is, or what it is we want to do together.

### THE KIDS ALL SET UP FOR WIRE CYCLES

The spiritual inertia translates itself into actual physical and mental inertia. We are all critics, but few desire the responsibility of action. This becomes particularly noticeable in youth, which behaves like a bystander in society—a kibitzer—instead of its junior partner and heir. Middle-class youth is profoundly disinterested but in no sense revolutionary. Its revolutionism confines itself to passing resolutions in mass meetings designed by Communist cells. But middle-class youth does not want to make over the nation or the world. It vaguely wants to have the world made over for it.

Characteristic of it is that it lives almost wholly in the present—one of the most ominous of signs. For the present is the most equivocal of all tenses. Men and communities keep alive and vigorous on the memory of a great past and the hope and intention of a great future. The present is only a bridge from the past to the future, which is the past and the faith and will for tomorrow.

### THE PAST IS FORGOTTEN, THE FUTURE DENIED

Our middle-class society, however, has debunked the past and is cynical about it. A long school of popular historians and biographers has debated the memory of past greatness to the level of the present. It has picked out all the warts on the faces of our heroes and has pockmarked every one from Jesus to Woodrow Wilson. Therefore, we are a civilization without a past.

Tell men in this society that this nation was founded on principles that are unimpeachable, and that though the physical frontiers are all explored, the social frontiers have hardly begun to be surveyed; tell them that the economic and political reorganization of the world is sure to take place and that we shall either contribute to do this ourselves or take the leadings from the gangsters; tell them that no human being lives for himself or his own generation, but that his business is to accept the heritage of the past, add to it and push forward into the future; and they will call you a Communist or a Fascist, or worse, from their standpoint, a philosophical idealist.