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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1940

The Ship Deal

By Raymond Clapper
WASHINGTON—If nothing else
is involved in the deal with
Great Britain except what is men-
tioned in the public documents,
then it is, as our
officials say, a
monumental
accomplishment in a
national defense.
We paid \$25-
000,000 for the
Virginia
ships, and in ad-
dition we have
been asked to
assume heavy
expenses for sup-
porting the eco-
nomic life of the
islands. Britain gives us sites for
air bases, and asks for
without our having to assume the
economic drain of administering
the civil affairs of the islands in-
volved, which are mostly minus
quantities economically.
Fifty overage destroyers are a
small price to pay for the acquisition
of these invaluable naval
assets and sites. It is because this
exchange is so much to our ad-
vantage that one is tempted to
question whether the 50 destroyers
are all that Britain expects in
payment.
SUSPECTS THAT OTHER
PRINCIPLES WILL BE
The people of both countries are
entitled to know whether anything
else is involved. We are entitled
to know whether we have ac-
quired an obligation of any kind to
extend further aid. The British
people should not be allowed to
build hopes that this deal means
the United States goes into the
war next winter.
Some people here believe that
a quiet to this transaction is to
be our entry fully into the war
after election. The record should
be made clear that no such ob-
ligation is involved. We do not want
the British people to charge next
winter that we have run out on
them.

City Hall Topics

By Dick Young
RUMBLEING underneath, heard four
years, roared forth yesterday when
Police Chief Nolan filed formal charges
with the City Council.
Commissioner
against Detective
Captain Frank W.
Littlejohn. There no
idea how this thing
will turn out. But
knowing Littlejohn
is not afraid of a fight and I sus-
pect that he welcomes this open and
above-board encounter. Rumors have
been whirled, and the Burks case
and the Wishart case brought forth de-
nunciations of Littlejohn in the past
the police board. Just yesterday that
his accusers come into the open and pre-
fer charges against him. He has said
that he would welcome the opportunity
for a hearing. Now that it has come he
will make the most of it. Some say he
will be so angry that he will be be-
lieving on several occasions that he has
been unfairly treated.
Complicated ramifications are in-
volved in this situation and the airing
of the charges, with Littlejohn's counter-
attacks, may prove to be most enlighten-
ing and interesting. Stories that have
been whirled may be being
claimed. At any rate, there's going to
be a hot time in the old town next
week.
LITTLEJOHN IS NO
SET-UP IN A FIGHT
The charges against the officer, who
was suspended by his chief, are serious,
most serious. The public has a right to
see them substantiated or disproved,
and in this process, the struggle, I say,
will be long-drawn-out. Frank Little-
john is not afraid of a fight and I sus-
pect that he welcomes this open and
above-board encounter. Rumors have
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THE RIGHT PLACE
FOR THOSE BORN FRENCH
In the mail this week came a postal
card with this notation: "What has been
the effect of the anti-noise ordinance? Or
did you hear a muffer cut-out?" The
query is pertinent, for unnecessary
noises from motor vehicles have been
long a complaint of the city. Just yesterday
the City Manager announced that weary citi-
zens had complained to him. Police
ought to be instructed to put the guy
who bears down on one of those rap-
idly spinning horns under the jail. . . .
I rode around yesterday on the present
City Hall automobile and, if there was
any work on wheels it was a former
police car (and what beating a police
car has to take) and was ready for
the junk heap when the cops were done
with it. But it is used for various pur-
poses around the City Hall now. One
day this week when Mayor Douglas was
being brought to town in it, it refused
to pull the E. Fourth Street hill. All
this to show that a new City Hall car
is needed. . . . Mrs. Hill (Doris Campbell)
Hanks has graduated from the bride's
class. She is now a full-fledged wife,
with her hand bandaged—hot grease
had spilled on it. . . . Here's an improve-
ment project that would mean much
but not cost much. If the northwest
corner of the sidewalk at Pecan Avenue
and Seventh Street, were cut back, it
would give motorists coming out of Pecan
Avenue more room. And while we are
on the subject of street improve-
ment, how about somebody repairing
that bumpy railroad crossing on E.
Fourth Street between College Street
and the underpass. A million bumps a
year would be eliminated if this crossing
were improved.
Fifth Columnist
North Carolina-Pilot
A football coach from distant parts
was seen in the railroad station here
yesterday. What he was doing is not known
but the suspicion think he was wound-
ing up another tank for full back.
Cannery Man
Blatantly Daily
One gathers that Mr. McKee does not
consider the prospect of being retained
in his present position in case of a Re-
publican victory favorable enough to
induce in any grade of Wendell Wilkie.
Visitin' Around
All Present and Accounted For
(The Blowing Rocket)
The bride wore Bermuda rose cancan
crepe and carried a bouquet of orchids
and lily of the valley. The groom wore
a neatly tailored three-piece suit con-
sisting of coat, vest and pants.
Second Class
(North Harbor from
New Item Tribune)
Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Adams and son,
Claude Jr. and Reginald, went in Deau-
fort Saturday. Claude and Reginald
attended the show.
He's Not a Member of
This Party
(Charlotte News)
These are the ideas of James Chalmers,
noted American artist, who says that
American women are stupid.

On Evidence
Opinion or Prejudice Have No
Place in Littlejohn Case

These are extremely grave charges that
Chief Nolan has brought against Frank
Littlejohn. They accuse him of high
crimes and malfeasance in office, of a
direct interest in sordid and illicit ac-
tivities which he and his department
were primarily responsible for prevent-
ing.
Whether or not the charges are an
outgrowth of accumulated bad feeling
between the Chief of Police and the Chief
of the Detective Division is of no conse-
quence at this juncture, any more than
their run-in over the Wishart case
should be permitted to have any bearing
on the hearing before the Civil Service
Commission.
The sole question involved is the truth
or falsity of the charged allegations, not
the motives which led to their being
made. Littlejohn would emphasize as
much. They specifically charge him
with wrongdoing. They must be specifi-
cally proved or disproved.
Pending judgment, it would be wise for
newspaper editors and the public gener-
ally to accept as a matter of fact the con-
sistency of American jurisprudence. That
is, a man accused is held to be innocent
until he is proved guilty.
This case, regardless of its background,
is now out of the realm of rumor, whisper
and personalities. It is heard in, and
all likelihood, for the courts where re-
sides ultimate justice.

The Hot-Foot
The Italians Hear News
Which Bodes Them Ill

The announcement of Winston
Churchill that the power of the British
Navy in the Mediterranean has been
doubled by the addition of heavy units
from the home fleet, is a bomb-
ardment. And grimmer still is the intima-
tion that they have been put there to
allow the British to take the offensive.
Mussolini has been busy preparing
for the above-mentioned Egypt and the
Buen Canal. But to carry out such a cam-
paign he has to be sure of being able to
transport not only men, but not only equip-
ment, ammunition, and food, but also
even water, from Italy to Libya. He can
no longer be sure of that. Indeed, the
odds are badly against his being able to
do it. The only reasonable prospect he
has left is to be sure of being able to
transport men from Germany, and it is doubtful
that the latter will be able to furnish
such aid. If he steams his feet to sea
to attempt to cover such movements, all
the evidence to date suggests pointedly
that it would take him out of the war
at once.
Yet, if he does not carry the war to
Africa, he may expect to have it brought
to Italy. For the logical step for Eng-
land is to take Italy out of the contest as
quickly as possible. This would leave her
to deal with only the one in the one sea
next Spring, and might open the way
for land operations of her own on the
Continent. It is continually forgotten
that England already has a continental
land base in Gibraltar and that an Eng-
lish blitzkrieg through Spain would have
as good a chance of success as a German
one. Spain has certainly forfeited any
title to consideration in the matter.
The new naval power will enable Eng-
land to draw her blockade further east
toward Italy with the prospect that the
latter may reach starvation by the first
of the year. To break that blockade
Mussolini would have to send his fleet
to sea—with the same chances as in
the case of the route to Libya.

Island Pog
Thomas Charges, If Over-
Excited, Contain Truth

Rep. Parnell Thomas, Republican of
New Jersey, is anything else than a hero
of our time. He is one of the most blat-
tant members of the United Dies Committee,
and he has indulged freely in calling
everybody he doesn't like a Communist
or fellow-traveler, including the Presi-
dent and Mrs. Roosevelt.
Nevertheless, it would not be wise to
ignore his warning of the activities of
Spain's dictator in Puerto Rico by
means of an organization called the
Spanish Falange.
Certainly, Franco has explicitly an-
nounced, through his stooge newspapers
and spokesmen, his ambition to recover
all the old Spanish Empire, not only in
the Caribbean, Central and South Ameri-
ca, but also even in the Philippines,
which we bought and paid for. Puerto
Rico has often been explicitly mentioned,
and Franco is already a Fascist-Nazi
puppet.
Moreover many of the great Spanish
landowners and merchants of the island
are known to be disaffected to the United
States and to look toward Spain.
The island is an important naval base
and, in case of war, Fifth Column ac-
tivities there would be exceedingly dan-
gerous.
That is not to suggest the need for
hysteria. Thomas, as usual, is bidding
for publicity. And the existence of the
group he names is known to naval intelli-
gence men. Nonetheless, it will not hurt
for the public also to know that it exists.

The Test
Dictatorship Is Impossible
When People Vote Freely

Some of the arguments offered against
the draft bill in the Senate were strange
stuff. But the House is, as usual, pro-
ducing even more weird exhibits.
Consider, for example, the argument
of the Hon. Francis Bateman Keefe of
the Sixth Wisconsin district — one
heavily populated by Germans and
people of recent German extraction, in-
cidentally. Yesterday he made a speech
in the House which filled up four pages
in the Congressional Record, at a cost
to the taxpayers of \$85 a page. And the
crux of this masterpiece? Why that
the language of the draft bill makes
it possible to hold men in the army
indefinitely, and that this is exactly what
is secretly planned by the War Depart-
ment and Mr. Roosevelt.
That is to say, the Congress, having
passed the draft bill, is suddenly going
to lose its power to make and unmake
legislation. The only possible way men
can be kept in the army indefinitely
is by an executive order, and the law is
for Congress to acquiesce in it. In-
deed, the people themselves would have
to acquiesce in the end, else the Con-
gress which refused to repeal the law
that allowed anything of that kind to
go on would be turned out of office at
the polls.
The crux of democracy resides pre-
cisely in the fact that the people can
vote freely, can reject men who displease
them. And so long as that right is
preserved intact all the talk about
dictators and dictatorial plans is mere
nonsense, designed to mean political
ends.

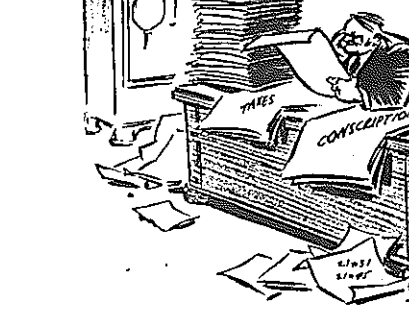
Hillbilly Leads
Arkansas Gazette

Said Mountain Albert told the 75-
year-old burster brought into court
on complaint of his 75-year-old
brother.
"Albert's cabin this right slow
time, he and his wife's been
living in it a month. He couldn't
get out on his stool, know better
than to butt in, so I took him
every day for a week a few
times in the yard. I thought
it would take his mind
off it."
But Mountain Albert told
the judge.
"it didn't mind none at first, but
I was in within on my steps
and the bullets got to bumin'
bolder than beer, I decided it
was time to get some law in here."
Writers and cartoonists and
others who like to think they
always act "hillbilly" scenes in
the Appalachian States, and
the South are advised that
dispatches reported this episode
in the Hills of the State of
New York State, some 30 miles
distant from Times Square in
New York City.

TONA'S BIRLE THOUGHT
Let all bitterness, and wrath,
and anger, and clamor, and
sneering, be put away from you,
with all malice.—Ephesians 4:31.

Letters to the Editor:
Prefers Freckles To Pam

Dear Sir:
As between "Pam" and Freckles
"Pam" is the one I'd rather
see discontinued. And please
"Mary Worth's Family" with
"Tracy" and you'll have the best
funnies going.—CARL M. POPE.
Box 229,
Stateville.
Says Negroes Object
To Aid for England
Dear Sir:
Looking back upon the works of
the League of Nations we find that
this great body did little good in
ward the permanent reestablishment
of world peace. Poland and many
of the tiny Balkan states which
were the result of League de-
cisions have long since fallen prey
to the irresistible influence of Eu-
ropean political controversy. The
number of states which Poland re-
tained standing was an unimpor-
tant figure. The League's ex-
penditure of the tremendous expendi-
ture of Allied capital which made
possible such an unimportant
number of states. The gigantic
task of usurping the lion's share
of world territory turned out to be
a colossal failure. The Negro people were not bene-
fited, but harmed by the unpopu-
lar, unwise, and unwise decisions
of the League.
Under the League scheme the
greedy deal between France,
Britain and Italy, and the
possession of Ethiopian Somaliland,
reached a climax. Mussolini
announced the intent of his
unpromptly invasion of Ethiopia
which by virtue of the superior
Italian air force and navy, quickly
resulted in the fall of Addis Ababa
and seizure by Italy of all re-
maining Italian territory not al-
ready in French, British, and
Italian hands. The cardinal sin of
the present European war is based
therein, upon political contro-
versy growing out of this bitter
rivalry between France, Britain
and Italy for dominant ownership
of Northeast African territory.
It would be unfortunate if the
Italian states bossie comparison
mastery of Europe. Hitler now
holds the latter home, likewise,
the nation or nations which con-
trol Ethiopia, Egypt, Morocco,
and Algeria would be a commercial
monopoly over the major portion
of Northeast Africa under her polit-
ical mastery. If the present
turn of events is suffered to con-
tinue, the doom of the British Em-
pire is sealed. For even if the
Rumanian oil dispute should
merge into a war between Russia
and Germany, and if Russia
succeeds in defeating Germany, it is
not at all likely that Russia will
be able to take the oil fields of
Rumania where Hitler is forced to
leave off.
The present day Soviet Regime
boasts one of the world's largest
and most modernly equipped mil-
itary machines. The Russian air
force, according to latest press re-
ports, is second only to that of
Germany. The world is anxious
to learn just what will be the
result if Russia suddenly
decides to enter a huge share
of the Central European and North-
east African territories now con-
trolled by Germany. If that
directly in line for a rough, tough,
and unending war. The
unprecedented political
situation.
Whether or not democracy
survives the present war, the
world political institution, depends
upon whether the American people
pursue an unyielding course
during the course of war or peace.
If we stay out of war democracy will
be, for a time, preserved; if we

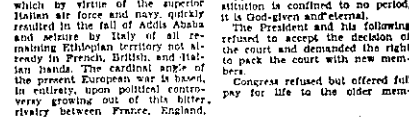


Side Glances

CONSCRIPTION
CONGRESS
A cartoon illustration showing a man sitting at a desk with a typewriter, looking at a document labeled 'CONSCRIPTION' and 'CONGRESS'. The man is looking at the document with a somewhat skeptical or thoughtful expression. The desk is cluttered with papers and a pen. The background is simple, suggesting an office or study.

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crepe and carried a bouquet of orchids
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sisting of coat, vest and pants.
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"Please, dear, let me buy a suit and topcoat that you like
—how about letting me buy a necktie that I like?"