THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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● W. C. Dowd, 1865-1927 ●

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SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1941

A Life-Saver

Police Interest in Murder Rate Preserves Thirteen Lives

The great improvement in Charlotte's 1941 murder rate over last year's is something to marvel at. Through July of 1940 there had been 23 homicides. So far this year there have been only ten.

Police Chief Joyner is proud of this entertainment in killings, and justifiably so. The cops have had to take a good deal of the blame for the shameful murder rate of past years. They are entitled to a large part of the credit for bringing it down.

Furthermore, there is a good chance that further improvement will be shown. The Police Department is alert to it. The City Council's action in appointing two Negro officers to patrol the Brooklyn area is going to help, and once this experiment has proved itself, she added protection may be extended to other Negro districts.

In any case, progress has been made and the city appears likely to lose its title as the most murderous in the United States—probably to Atlanta. Cheerfully we relinquish the distinction, not, however, allowing pleasure in the reduction of the murder rate to obscure the fact that by the standard of the more enlightened communities, including Southern communities, the number of killings in Charlotte still sticks out like a sore thumb.

Fish Again

An Army Colonel's Speeches Mailed Out by Naziphile

The Hour, a well-edited weekly bulletin with a reputation for outspokenness and accuracy, reports in the current issue:

"Naziphile Charles B. Hudson, editor of the violently anti-Semetic America in danger, is distributing reprints from speeches made in Congress by Representative Hamilton Fish of New York. Hudson is sending these reprints through the U. S. mails in envelopes bearing Hamilton Fish's name; and he is using the Congressman's franking privilege.

"The most recent Fish speech thus circulated, says *The Hour*, contains this sentence: 'The last thing Hitler or Mussolini would want to do is declare war on us.'

The Hour continues:

"It is only natural that Charles B. Hudson should want to publicize the views of Representative Fish, since Fifth Columnists are in unanimous agreement that Fish's opinions should reach the widest possible audience. Fish has won their admiration and support by his consistent pro-fascist stand. American Quislings know he is one man they can depend on."

This is the same Hamilton Fish who, as a colonel in the United States Army, is at this moment commanding an entire regiment of soldiers and is attached to Fort Bragg headquarters.

Catspaw

Japan Pulls Chestnuts From Hitler's Fire

Of all the times that Japan should not have chosen to stick her neck out, it was this week. Virtually bankrupt, weakened by three years of unsuccessful fighting in China, with more than a million soldiers already killed and wounded, Japan was in no position to challenge Great Britain and the United States. Looking at it from the Japanese viewpoint, the times called for extreme caution and pacification.

The cabinet members Prince Konoye fired the other day must have realized this. They must have argued that if Japan provoked a war with Britain and the United States, she would be risking her own very uncertain existence to pull Germany's chestnuts out of the fire. But the militarists were obdurate, and it was necessary to form a new cabinet, one that apparently is nothing more than a Far-Eastern subsidiary of the German Reich.

Japan has made her most colossal blunder since the invasion of China. She has sacrificed her own dreams of empire simply to create a diversion for Adolf Hitler. Her leaders are the prize fools of the world.

Now the American government has the power to stop all imports of silk. This means ruin for the millions of Japanese peasants who keep silk worms. We can stop oil shipments to Japan. Those two economic measures alone will hurt Japan worse than the bombs from 10,000 airplanes.

The reckless Japanese militarists expect a British-American blockade. Their answer is war. For years these little yellow schemers have been building themselves up for a war with some western power. Out of their mass inferiority-complex has come supreme egotism of the synthetic kind. It is this egotism that has led them far on the road to self-destruction.

Buy A Stamp?

Nay—Get a Free Frank From Wheeler, Fish or Nye

At best it is in an expensive, swindle-sheet luxury—this business of allowing members of Congress to send what they will through the mails, postage free. At worst it can become a vicious political kind of direct-mail advertising campaign peddling fascism, pacifism, anti-semitism or damn foolishness to the American people in time of crisis. The worst, through the medium of Wheeler, Nye, and Fish, is now upon us.

By his own admission, Senator Wheeler has sent out approximately 1,000,000 postal cards, each urging the recipient to adopt the Wheeler brand of isolationism. Many of these cards were addressed to men serving in the United States Army. Soldiers were invited to join in a political fight.

As any advertising man will tell you, it costs a lot of money to send out a million postals. Even if Wheeler got the usual favorable rates from the U. S. Printing office, as well as free postage, addressing and handling a million cards is a major clerical job. It must have cost somebody a couple of thousand dollars. Who?

Senator Wheeler also stands accused of allowing one of the most rabidly fascist and anti-semitic groups in the United States to use hundreds of his franked envelopes. He has denied the charge and threatened to bring suit against Ulric Bell, his accuser, Secretary of the Fight for Freedom Committee. Mr. Bell has publicly repeated his accusation three times since and no Wheeler reply has been heard.

As reported in the Washington Merry-Go-Round yesterday, Senator Nye has turned over large quantities of his franks to the Steuben Society of America. This group is distributing a speech by Theodore H. Hoffman (which Nye had inserted in the Congressional record at public expense). Copies of the speech have been given to members of the society folded and enclosed in unaddressed envelopes franked by Nye, so that members may mail them, without expense to themselves, to other members "of their race" (German.)

Representative Fish, who has given an out-and-out Naziphile the right to use his franks, is dealt with in a separate editorial on this page.

In 1925, when Congress passed an act giving members the privilege of franking mail for "official business," it was never intended that this courtesy should be prostituted in any such manner. Last year the Post Office Department lost more than $41,000,000, the bulk of which could have been saved had it not been for free mailing privileges.

The abuse of the frank has grown to such proportions that the appendix to the Congressional record is larger than the report of debates. At every session, member after member asks and obtains consent to include speeches—about anything, about anybody and mostly extraneous—in the appendix. Their purpose is obvious. It costs the member only a trivial sum to get re-prints from the appendix. To set up and print a speech in the appendix itself cost many times as much.

Logically, the only way to stop this abuse is to take the franking privilege out of the hands of those who have perverted it. We have always been in sympathy with the policy of constituents writing their Congressman, but the practice of Congressmen propagandizing their constituents—at the constituents' expense—has fallen into such misuse and abuse that it should be taken off the free list.

From what one sees so far of vacation styles, the two-pants suit is just the thing for a fellow with a sister.

Another emergency catches us, as usual, with those high notes still in the national anthem.

God And The Nazis

By Dorothy Thompson

WE ARE fighting for western Christian civilization against the Godlessness of Soviet Russia."
—Recent Nazi broadcast from Berlin.

"Germans! Your land shall be the source of life for the whole earth. I, God, shall give you the entire earth so that you may dominate it and lead it in accordance with my will . . . Praised be God who gives strength. Praised be God who loves the strength of power. Praised be war and praised be the victory of Germany in it."

—"Nazi Prayer," from the play "Job's Speech to the German," sponsored since 1933 by Goebbels all over Germany.

"Recognize them, the Roman Catholic vampires! German Youth, stay away from such life, unite against the international bandits."
—Posters in Germany in 1935.

"The history of Christianity is a history of lies and swindles, murder and crime, oppression, violence . . . burning of cities and torturing of inhabitants, inquisitions, persecution of heretics, witch burning, plundering the poor and the weak, jails, enslavement of the mind, execution of the innocent—all this in the name of Christ."
—Ernst Bergmann, professor of theology at the University of Leipzig, in his book "The German National Church."

"We must protest against the claim of the Christian religion to be the religion of the German nation. For its essence is quite foreign and repugnant to us. Before us lies the goal of a Teutonic, a German morality which will rank higher than that of Christianity."
—Wilhelm Hauer, a former pastor and now professor of theology at the University of Tubingen.

"When in centuries to come, Mankind will see the present events in their true proportions, they will say: Christ was great, but Adolf Hitler was greater'".
—Willi Becker, a leader of the German Labor Front.

"The morally corrupt, unpatriotic clergy is neither willing nor able to administer wealth belonging to the German nation . . . If it is taken away from them, they lose anything to which they have the slightest legal claim."
—Das Schwarze Korps, organ of the S. S. advocating measures of expropriation of the Catholic Church, on charges of mismanagement and immorality in monasteries. (Nov. 15, 1938.)

"Our leader becomes the intermediary between his people and the throne of God . . . Everything which our leader utters is religion in the highest sense, in its deepest and most hidden meaning."
—Goebbels speaking in Berlin on March 29, 1938.

"We are the merry Hitler Youth,
We need no Christian virtue.
For our leader, Adolf Hitler
Is our redeemer, our intercessor.
No evil priest can stop us
From feeling we are Hitler's children.
We follow not Christ but Horst Wessel,
Away with incense and the holy-water vessel.
Singing, we follow Hitler's banners.
Only then are we worthy of our sires.
I am no Christian and no Catholic,
I go with S. A. through thick and thin.
The Church can go take a running jump;
The Swastika makes me happy on earth;
I will follow it step for step."
—Song of the Hitler Youth.

". . . But now we must again, because of a series of experiences, confess that the attacks have not become more bearable, but rather more hostile and more violent, and certainly more evident. They strive for the hindrance of and the sucking away of the blood of Catholic life; furthermore, the destruction of the Catholic Church among our people; even the uprooting of Christianity in general and the introduction of a faith that no longer has the least relation to belief in God and the Christian belief in a future life...

"To our profound regret we also have heard and experienced attacks made upon the personal honor of the Holy Father in an especially injurious manner . . .

"Catholic books and writings are subjected to the severest censorship and frequently are even forbidden, confiscated or destroyed.

"The Nazis have kindled a war of extermination against religion and, as they proceed, they create a fissure in the soul of the German nation which tends to diminish the very strength of the country."
—German pastoral Letter, signed by all German Bishops, Aug. 19, 1938.

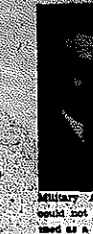
For Latest Developments, See Page 1

—By Bartosch

Armies In Politics

By Raymond Clapper

A [illegible] of political [illegible] raised by General Douglas [illegible] Chief of Staff, is [illegible] to the effect that [illegible] petition Congress against expanding the Army.



General Marshall described this petition activity as subject to the most [illegible] character. He told the House Military Affairs Committee that we would not build an army if it is to be used as a political club. He said he was deeply concerned over maintaining morale "with all this racket going on in the Army."

One or two Senators have made public petitions which they have received from groups of enlisted men. Lieut.-Gen. Hugh Drum, in command of the First Army, notified General Marshall that there was considerable activity in trying to get his men to sign petitions to Congress. He instructed his command that such petitions were in violation of the regulations.

SHALL THE ARMY BECOME A POLITICAL WEAPON?

Those are the essential facts. The question is whether the Army is to become involved in political activity. For if it becomes established that large groups within the Army are to petition Congress and exert pressure on this question of extending the term of service, then we may expect similar agitation about other questions. When a man joins the police force or the fire department, he sacrifices the right to strike. When a man becomes a member of the Federal Judiciary, he is supposed to take the political veil, although we have some unfortunate examples to the contrary. Similarly, men in the armed services forego a number of privileges enjoyed in civil life. Unquestioning obedience to orders is required of them. It would seem that they must also forego agitation regarding public questions.

LATIN AMERICAN ARMIES RUN SOME GOVERNMENTS

For if the Army does not remove itself from political controversy we have the most vicious form of militarism, which is a threat to democracy and civil government. Some of the South American countries, in which the civil authorities are under the thumb of the army, should provide sufficient object lessons. Bolivia has just put down a threatened uprising engineered between a major in the Bolivian Army and the German Minister to Bolivia. Latin American history is full of instances of usurpation by the military.

We are now creating a large army and if it should become a political force the results would be unfortunate for our democracy.

LET'S NOT GO TO WAR WITH LEAPS OF IMPULSE

I think you will find among most of our high Army officials the hope that there will be no hysteria in this country. A country that works itself up into a hysterical state is apt to leap into war from impulse and not from cold calculation. If we have to go to war, it ought to be at the time and in the manner best calculated to serve our interest. It should not be a matter of public hysteria as when the battleship Maine was sunk and the country forced the Government hell-bent against President McKinley's judgment, into war.

So it would seem that from top to bottom the Army should be kept clear of political controversy. When recommendations are made, they should come from the officers charged with responsibility, and not from individual outfits within the Army direct to the civil authorities. Otherwise you have chaos and eventually a political army thrusting itself into all kinds of civil affairs. The Army, as the Navy, should be a professional servant of government policy and not a maker of it, except insofar as technical considerations dictate what course should be taken.

And, putting the shoe on the other foot, when a general undertakes to discipline an outfit, it does not seem proper that members of Congress should try to exert remote control by making it a public issue.

Letters to the Editor:

Paying For Aluminum Scrap

Editors, THE NEWS:

This week, is being gathered up all the old pots, pans and whatnot-have-you that once represented our pride and joy in the latest aluminum ware. It is no longer serviceable to the needs it was manufactured for, and therefore now consigned to the national scrap heap to help reduce an aluminum shortage. The plan is excellent as far as it goes. However, it certainly looks to me as if John Q. Public is asked to be patriotic without any consideration as to how this patriotism can be made useful to the said John Q. Public aside from wearing a satisfied smile for an act well done.

Let us analyze this aluminum scrap collection from all the nation's families. It is safe to state that the call is being, and will be answered to the fullest extent, and in fact, it is also certain thousands of such pots and pans quite serviceable will be added to help swell the aluminum scrap heap. Aluminum for years sold for 20 cents per pound, or $400 per ton, and presumably it is selling for at least that much now—except that you cannot purchase it. Now all this scrap aluminum goes to manufacturers of defense arms and armament. These manufacturers are making a profit off such orders, and rightly so. Why, then, should they receive this scrap without paying something for it?

The answer will be, no doubt, any payment would be of no consequence to the donors, as their several donations would in the main be quite small. That is admitted. But, all this scrap is gathered together and goes into one freight car, or possibly several 40-ton freight cars from this city. Why shouldn't this scrap be paid for on the basis of 10 cents per pound by the manufacturers that receive it? It should be, and the communities from which it is sent receive that price for their contributions.

The communities should not be expected to make all the donations in such cases. The communities have as much right to be beneficiaries of their scrap piles as the manufacturers that receive such scrap pile. After all, the public will pay for the manufactured articles, and such a distribution of community sold scrap receipts to their Community Chest would certainly help to spread defense money around just where it was most needed. A community has a right to put their gleanings on a business basis as much as the recipient of the gleanings has a right to profit by them. The suggestion may be unpatriotic, but is darned good sense.

Suppose Charlotte collects one 40-ton carload of this scrap, which is certainly worth 10 cents per pound, it would mean $8,000 to the Community Chest — quite intelligent patriotism.

—ARTHUR S. FLOWERS.
1125 Princeton Ave.,
Charlotte.

". . . Destruction Shall Come Upon Us"

Editors, THE NEWS:

The voice of one is the voice of many. President Roosevelt is doing all he can to help England. England is our rock in the weary land, a shelter in time of a storm. I don't believe all our aid to Britain will ever win this war, since Hitler is mobilizing his conquered nations to join in his bloodthirsty, muddy march on peace-loving nations of the world. Of course aid to Britain will not end the war, only prolong it. It will give this country more time to get ready to intervene if it is necessary. If Hitler overthrows Russia it will endanger this Hemisphere; it's not a great distance from North Russia to Alaska, key point in the Pacific Coast. Hitler with all his resources in food and manpower will be almost impossible to stop by sending aid to the Allies.

If the U. S. A. desists in entering the war now, I am afraid it will be too late, after Hitler's conquest of Russia. It is best to stay out of war now if it is possible. Soviet Russia has become England's ally not because of her sympathy for Britain. What has hurt Russia most in the eyes of democracies is her Communism. Britain has gone through an awful siege so far, and is still fighting our battles while we Americans are building playhouses, recreation and amusement parks, living in splendor sumptuously day by day, like the rich man while poor Lazarus was suffering. It is high time we are waking up from our slumbers. So sayeth the Bible: "Behold I sit as a queen and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow, when sudden destruction shall come upon us."

The Bible, the majority of the people are in favor of intervention when a feasible time presented itself. And that is now. Already demonstrated in Europe that there is danger in delay. What is the matter with our leaders, have they gone loco? Aid to Britain without forces can never win this war. Might now while Stalin is fighting in opposition against Hitler is the opportune time to strike. This has been the sentiment of all fair-minded people before Secretary Knox suggested it, for quite a while, but the right time had not arrived until now. There will never be another opportunity like this. If Russia is defeated Hitler would have a reserve of all the necessary supplies and manpower at his command and it would be impossible for England to survive with all the help that this country could give, unless this nation throws all her weight against Hitler and that would have most effect then, as it would have now.

I have day and night followed the movements of this war from the beginning. Only one way to judge the future and that is by what has transpired before. Tactics remain about the same, but overwhelming numbers is what plays havoc, with plenty of sustaining food.

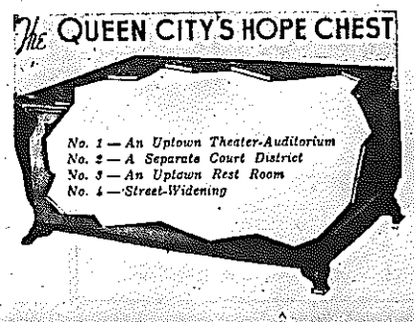
—C. D. WACASTER.
Marion.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

I came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.
—*Luke 5:32.*

Side Glances

"I should have been a frog—no Hitler to worry about, no money troubles . . . just take a mighty leap any time anything annoys you."



Visitin' Around

September Will Tell
(Ronda Rt. 2 item.
North Wilkesboro Hustler)

Master Billy Gentry, of Winston-Salem came to spend the Summer or his vacation with his grandmother, Mrs. Vetra Boyd.

The Ants And
The Butterflies
(Laurel Item.
Marshall News-Record)

Everybody is busy picking beans on Laurel now.
(Middle Laurel Item.
Marshall News-Record)

Miss Ruth Cantrell and Doyle Shelton were motoring on Laurel Sunday.