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And Evening Chronicle

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1942

## Now Or Never

Hitler Must Strike at East Or Await the Kill at Home

American and British forces rush ahead meeting in Tunisia. It becomes apparent that Hitler, robbed of any opportunity in the Mediterranean, at present, either cannot or will not make a major attempt to hold the line between the Allied armies. The African campaign is concluded the prospect is that the enemies will crouch a time, facing across the sea, trading blows by air. Not long, however, a stalemate exists.

U. S. strategy seems obvious. Large numbers of battle-trained troops are reported to have been shifted to the Russian front, moving into France and the Balkan danger spots, ending into France and Italy. The most serious Axis counterblow to offset the 10-American group is to strike through the land bridge of the East, in an attempt to cut off land supplies and challenge for supremacy in the Eastern Mediterranean where the United Nations are weak. He can launch that attack through the Balkans, and the land bridge of the East, in an attempt to cut off land supplies and challenge for supremacy in the Eastern Mediterranean where the United Nations are weak. He can launch that attack through the Balkans, and the land bridge of the East, in an attempt to cut off land supplies and challenge for supremacy in the Eastern Mediterranean where the United Nations are weak.

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## Suggestion

Suspension of 40-Hour Week Would Add to Manpower

The vexing manpower shortage, after it may be one of those mirages caused by a distorted reflection of the truth. At least that is the belief of Senator Lee O'Daniel of Texas, a source of information Mr. O'Daniel will not be first-class, but when he is passing the biscuits in the Senate chamber the other day he talked some significant Government figures.

Because the 40-hour week cuts might into total production figures and indicates every sort of industry. O'Daniel said it an evil which has created a vicious shortage of manpower. The 40-hour week has been a disaster, he said, outside agriculture, and it isn't enough to suit our needs. That figure means that 42,000,000 workers are now doing a job which could be performed by 25,000,000 if they could work 48 hours a day six days a week. It sounds like too much of a good thing to his countrymen, O'Daniel is quick to explain. A new working schedule of that type would release 17,000,000 men for other services. Further, the nation's labor force has been brought down to 40 hours a week, and he said that the move would satisfy the labor and capital, and meet the need.

Senator O'Daniel proposes to end the 40-hour week, and pay labor overtime at the rate it has been for Russian labor. He said that move would satisfy the labor and capital, and meet the need.

with the general approval of the country. He has, of course, no chance of success. But there is no point that a labor-loving Administration could not make more progress with its war program if it took a step with the Tektan in his march toward longer hours in a manpower shortage.

## Still Smoking

Admiral Glasflood, Fresh From Battle, Speaks to Charlotte

On the night when thunder rolled in the dark Maccassar Straits and four American destroyers covered by a lone cruiser cut a 40-ship Jap convoy to bits, Rear Admiral William A. Glasflood commanded. That he won the first victory against Japanese odds with a fragment of sea power was due in no small measure to the fact that enemy ships blasted at one another in the confusion of a daring attack. That action was a key to the Glasflood method.

In the Coral Sea the Jap met him again, was once more outwitted and outgunned. By then, he was an old friend, he made his bow by saving a Manila-bound convoy from China shortly before Pearl Harbor by a wily pretense at misunderstanding signals. But that's only one war. In the first World War he wrote a thrilling line of Navy history by bringing the destroyer fleet safely home after her bow had been sheared off in a collision with the Aquitania. Wherever Glasflood went, there went action.

Which explains the presence of a fighting sea veteran in the Sixth Naval District. Because the District needed inspired, aggressive leadership of the type that only Glasflood could bring. Standing of war, Admiral Glasflood came to Charleston. And that line of duty brings him to Charlotte tonight, to speak on the Navy Wings of God program at the Armory-Auditorium.

Because the No. 1 figure on the program is no brass hat orator, but a former light man who has seen it at its best and worst, the people of Mecklenburg are lucky at the chance to hear him, and heed his words.

## Five-Day Wonder

Kaiser's Workers Get Religion Of Production From the Boss

They have shrugged off Henry Kaiser, engineer of the impossible. They have said that he was a stunt man, addicted to spectacular methods of record launchings accomplished at the sacrifice of over-all production. But even if the charge is true, it doesn't matter much. He is still the public notion of the man who's showing the way in the scuffle to out-produce the world for war.

When he launched his freighter Robert E. Peary in less than five days after the laying of her keel, he not only cut an amazing record in half, he generated a new wave of the spirit the nation will need in the time of our offensive drives. The fact that his record was broken by a competitor (less than 80 hours) proves only that the old man is an inspiration in the battle of builders.

Before that ship was done he had whole shifts of workmen so stirred that they were sticking to the job at all hours, getting in the way of the next working shift. Finally, he had to subdue their patriotic fervor with an order to get out and stay out except during regular hours. Working men and women all over the country could use some of that, and it was Kaiser who showed them how.

Whether the Peary was a trick accomplishment, though she was already built in great prefabricated sections and required only an assembly job, her launching was an achievement worthy of note for the whole country. And that's to say nothing of the attention it must have got in Tokyo and Berlin, where the incredible story should have made darkly ominous reading. That the Kaiser ship is, in short, the answer of America's production genius to the war German Somervell says is "right down our alley."

Germany eats first, says Babe Goering, least the fate of the neighbors a matter of dark surmise. Presumably they can apply at one another's breadlines.

In lively Latin America, a couple of political hotheads cross labors for 45 minutes and neither is harmed. It is a way to hone a sword, but monotonous.



"Oh, he just bombed her with an ash tray, and she's such a poor soldier she cried!"

## For The Draft

# Baby Bonanza

By Dick Young

"DRAIBE the Lord and Page the Obstetrician" is a refrain that is attaining the proportions of a swelling chorus in Charlotte. Vital statistics at the City Health Department bear this out. Charlotte's birth rate for October shattered all previous monthly records. The 358 births registered—last month there were more than any other month in the history of the local bureau of vital statistics.

There's always some reason for phenomena and apparently one of the main reasons for the unprecedented birth rate, judging from reports from some of the papers over that inevitable call from Uncle Sam. Assistants in the bureau of vital statistics have been working feverishly to issue birth certificates which the proud parents promptly file with their draft boards to keep out of the Army.

This child dependency situation is causing no end of trouble to officials of selective service boards because of the necessity for reclassification of those who come dashing up breathlessly and proudly waving a birth certificate. To avoid last-minute complications and hasty reclassifications at quota time, draft boards, I understand, are accepting doctors' certificates, testifying to future blessed events. Such certificates entitle the registrant to reclassification but I wonder if the over-worked draft boards are able to follow up these cases.

A doctor's certificate of a probable blessed event does not guarantee the arrival of the service-freeing dependent and it's wiser may last dollar that in the majority of such cases the vital information of the non-arrival is not voluntarily offered. And that information ought to be gotten just as quickly as the information that "the wife is expecting." This reclassification business can work more than one way.

This is a serious war and many more millions of men will be needed before victory is won and freedom and liberty are guaranteed. Our President has already led us up to the end of 1943. And all this dashing around and paging the obstetrician may go for naught. Soon it may become necessary to call men to the front in order to develop the army we will need to save the world, our own country included.

Unless the prospects of Hitler's heel on our necks are removed I for one would not want to be a party to bringing an innocent child into a world marked by the curse of dictators. I would rather take a chance of losing my own life in the effort to blot out that curse.

## O Star Of France

By WALT WHITMAN

O STAR of France, the brightness of thy hope and strength and fame, Like some proud ship that led the fleet so long, Beset by today a wreck driven by the gale, a mastless hulk, And 'mid its tottering maddened half-drowned crew, Nor helm nor helmsman.

Dim smitten star, O star of France alone, pale symbol of my soul, its dearest hopes, The struggle and the daring, cease divine for liberty, Of aspirations toward the far ideal, enthusiast's dream of brotherhood.

Of terror to the traitors and the priest, Star crucified by tyrants sold, Star panting 'er land of death, heroic land, Strange, passionate, mocking, frivolous land.

Miserable yet for thy errors, vanities, stuns, I will not now rebuke thee, The unrepented woes and pangs have quelled them and I, And left thee sacred.

In that amid thy many faults thou ever almost highly, In that thou wouldst not really sell thyself however great the price,

In that thou surely wakedst weeping from thy drugged sleep, In that alone among the sisters thou, gaudiest, didst rend the ones that shamed thee, In that thou couldst not, wouldst not, wear the usual chains, This cross, thy wild face, thy pierced hands and feet, The spear thrust in thy side.

O star O ship of France, beat back and baffled long! Bear up O smitten star! O ship continue on!

Sure as the ship of all, the Earth itself, Product of deathly fire and turbulent chaos, Forth from its span of fury and its poisons, Forward from its last in rest power and beauty, Onward beneath the sun following its course, So be O ship of France!

Finish'd the days, the clouds dispel'd, The travail over, the long-sought extinction, When lo! return, high over the European world, (In glances answering thence, as far star, to face, reflecting ours (in Columbia) Again the star O France, fair lustreous star, In heavenly peace, clearer, more bright than ever, Shall beam immortal.

"This poem was published 70 years ago, after the Franco-Prussian War. That it so perfectly fits into today's scene is accidental.

## Chickie! Chickie!

# Visitin' Around

Turning on the Heat

(Mount Moriah Item, Monroe Journal) The first cold morning I was fixing up some corn meal and red pepper feed for the chickens and one of the family asked what I was doing. I said I was going to make the hens lay. While I was feeding the lot I found a nice egg lying on the ground nearby. In a short time I went back to the hen and found a nest with six eggs in it. When it's cold you had better feed red pepper.

The Good Samaritan

Ruffin Ruff 1 Item, Reidsville Review) T. W. Smith is suffering with a very sore nose and eye caused by striking them against a plank while helping a neighbor catch his chickens Friday night.

# Hitler Sees The Truth

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON HITLER's guess that he wanted the rest of Europe, was only 1 to 5 per cent below 1938. Few transportation experts will believe the election results was anything less than it seemed to be.

He gave away his correct analysis of our intentions when he rushed reinforcements to Tunisia to bolster the slim Nazi and Italian marine forces there. His real problem was to keep us from breaking through and cutting off the escape of Rommel's army from North Africa.

The Nazi seizure of France was apparently the only prestige-gathering move left in Hitler's dwindling bag of tricks. It was a military mistake. He did not count himself, to detain of more territory, thereby weakening his stand of arms in the Lowlands, and reserves for the Russian front.

Here was the only thing left that he could get without fighting, but to take it, he drove the French into our camp, ruined their show of resistance in North Africa, undertook the obligation to feed and maintain order over a few million more hostile people.

The hourglass in Berlin is running low.

## Gallup, Doctor of Error

Dr. Gallup, the pollster, is backing up Vice-President Wallace's unique argument that the election was a victory for the New Deal, saying that the record number of voters who stayed away from the polls were New Dealers, and that if they all had voted, the New Deal would have won its usual victory.

This reasoning may appeal to Dr. Gallup, because he had the worst prediction of the national election of any I saw published. He was worse than the official Democratic claim, The Democratic expected to lose ten to fifteen seats, but Dr. Gallup's forecast (Oct. 31) said: "The chief surprise in next Tuesday's election will be the continued strength of the Democratic nationally, as shown in the Congressional races. The Democratic Party will have virtually the same majority of seats in the House the next two years as they have had since 1932."

This has caused a couple of Republican senators to talk about a Congressional investigation of polls. But where Dr. Gallup's explanation of his error proves itself false is in the New York State returns (where his poll of Dewey's vote was almost exact).

The Republican vote for Congressman in New York City was 8 per cent larger than in 1934, while Dewey's vote was only 3 per cent over 1938.

Also, the Dunn survey shows the national loss in the vote of Democratic candidates for Congress

was only 1 to 5 per cent below 1938. Few transportation experts will believe the election results was anything less than it seemed to be.

## Outdated Almanac

The December American Magazine article by Harry Hopkins is being handed around Washington, as an advance warning of how the Government intended to uproot most citizens and transplant them involuntarily into the final war effort.

Often such unofficial Presidential authorities as Hopkins and Mrs. Roosevelt write, as their personal opinions, what the White House has in mind to do. Their articles are supposed to prepare the public mind, and obviously this is what Hopkins intended this time.

But the magazine was prepared weeks ago, and the article written perhaps weeks before that. Since then, many if not all of Hopkins' thunderous expectations have been outdated by events. For instance, he predicted his picture partly on the possibility of the British losing the Bess. Russia surrendering and America being invaded.

Also, there has been an election since he wrote—and since that election, Mr. Roosevelt, has announced nothing would be done about a selective draft service for workers until after the first of the year. Union labor, too, has pushed its pressure against the draft right upon the President's desk.

What Hopkins foretold in the magazine is, therefore, in abeyance at least. He predicted a \$100,000-a-year man might be thrust into a \$2,000 job (maybe the Treasury will have something to say about indispensable tax revenues before that is done).

He prophesied citizen draft boards would be established, like Army draft boards, in all districts. (It is fairly well agreed at the top now that a single draft organization for industry and Army should be whatever is done.)

"Able bodied persons will be given a wide range of choice as to what they will do," he wrote. "But if they don't move voluntarily, their manpower organization will direct them to a specific job." (Legislation for this would have to be authorized by Congress and the need shown.)

He estimated half the workers would be taken out of the paper, printing and publishing industry, one-third from food, half from garage and filling stations, nearly all from clocks, jewelry, etc. on. (Congress is already raising the question of increasing the work week to 48 hours, instead, and Mr. Roosevelt's Labor-Management Committee has recommended training women, students, unemployed, etc. to see if these steps will not solve the problem.)

Mr. Hopkins, authoritative as he is, may not have had the right dope.

## End of the Comedie Francaise

—By Herlock



## World Expansion

# Production For Offense

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON means harder sacrifice at home. That will be the rule until the war is over.

I wouldn't repeat those obvious facts except that there are some indications of irritation at restrictions on the home front. Some of the candidates in their recent election say those irritations influenced the election results. Some of the letters which have been coming into this office since the election reflect the same note. It is an appalling thought, if these strains are an indication of the wind, that enough people are resentful of some wartime inconvenience to affect the election.

I have a typical letter here from a small town in Oklahoma. It says: "I am a supporter of the war, but from what my neighbors say, that the election overturn there was partly attributable to these irritations with wartime restrictions."

This grassroots letter says: "In spite of the assertions of newspaper columnists, and of effusive declarations of certain types of politicians that the people stand ready and anxious for an all-out war effort, it is not true. Yes, the people are 100 per cent for winning the war, but 75 per cent of them want George to do it. They don't want to be deprived of their accustomed routine. Of course, if you accuse any of them, they deny it stoutly, but their attitude and evident attitude toward the war effort tells their words."

Perhaps he is wrong. I don't know. But since the election, Senator Willis of Indiana has received more than 600 letters protesting against extension of gasoline rationing. Evidently a sizeable letter-writing campaign is going on against restrictions to save tires and gasoline in the home. On the basis of the letter, it takes 40 barrels of gasoline to send up a big bomber. Possibly they think it's not up to them that the rubber wheel they're up against is not a common sense replaced except by taking it out of military needs.

When a ship is in action it fires hundreds of shells within the space of five minutes. When we send up a four-motored bomber, we must put more than 2,000 gallons of gasoline in the tank. So when you talk about a 1,000-plane bomber attack, you are talking about 2,000,000 gallons of gasoline—which is perhaps 40,000 barrels.

When we occupy new points, we not only must run ships there with these absolutely essential supplies—we must also have enough vessels available to last convoy to Russia required 77 warships. Escort vessels don't grow on trees. In the Mediterranean and the Pacific, in the Atlantic, in the Indian Ocean, and we are sending shut to the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. What we are sending now is nothing to action. If we are having trouble giving out allies as much as they want, what will the land allies as much as they want to supply in addition?

The point of all that comes home to us here in America. The point is that each victory we gain means a tightening of the belt at home. Each victory means that the appetite for ships, tankers and everything else grows. So the better we do abroad, the tighter we must cut our civilian economy at home. On the basis of the African victory, the War Production Board decides to lighten fuel-oil and gasoline allowances for non-military consumption. There will be more tightening, if we continue to win. Victory abroad