

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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W. C. Dowd, 1865-1927

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SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1942

All The Way

Taking Envelopes Off Federal Publicity Is Only First Step

A significant thing has happened. The latest communication from the Office of Public Relations at Fort Bragg reached Charlotte today as late as the day it was mimeographed.

"Owing to the paper shortage," a note explained, "this office has abandoned the use of envelopes for news releases."

Does this mean that other Government agencies will follow suit and send their tons of publicity material without benefit of envelopes?

Look at this way. Hundreds, if not thousands of Government employees earn their daily bread by folding pieces of paper and putting them in envelopes.

Quick Action

Response to Broughton Complaint Was Resounding

When Governor Broughton made his well-documented indictment of "a shocking lack of co-ordination" between the armed forces available for submarine patrol on the East Coast, it is doubtful that it even expected such a prompt and comprehensive response.

Wednesday, March 25 - Governor Broughton accuses the Army and Navy of failing to co-operate in combatting U-boat activity.

Thursday, March 26 - President Roosevelt acknowledges receipt of the Governor's protest.

Friday, March 27 - Army and Navy announced unified command for handling Atlantic coast submarine problems, not only meeting the Governor's recommendations, but in many particulars, going beyond them.

Of course Governor Broughton would be the last to take all or even a portion of the credit for the reorganization of the submarine patrol. But let it be recorded that at a critical time, when, because of war censorship, neither the people nor the press could make an articulate protest, Governor Broughton fulfilled his obligation to the citizens of North Carolina by speaking out courageously. And by so doing he not only added to the dignity and authority of his own high office. He opened to the governors of all the states a new sphere of responsibility and action in war time.

A Big Order

Morganton Inquiry Poses Great and Complex Problems

Four men and one woman are known to be going to enjoy their week-ends. They are the members of the Governor's Board of Inquiry into the State Hospital at Morganton for three days at Morganton last week and for three days this week, one in Winston-Salem, two in Charlotte, they have been compelled by the obligation of their assignment to sit for long hours listening to the testimony of the most pathetic, sometimes the most sordid, and always the most personal character.

have begun to perceive not only the enormous institutional problem which has been posed for its solution but also the complex problem of personality with which it has to deal. Attendants and nurses making out the same amount of money per month vary between good, bad and indifferent, so that some other factor than low wages enters into it. Between the five harassed doctors themselves—five doctors to make the rounds of 2,000 hospitalized persons, all of them eager to talk of their complaints and their conditions—the board has sensed a difference in personality. Dr. So-and-so, most former patients say, is a nice man, kind to you. Dr. Otherwise, the patients declare heatedly, has the time or the inclination to be bothered with you.

Verily, the board has its work cut out, work which not only is of extraordinary importance to North Carolina but is also, because of the similarity of conditions here and in other states, of extraordinary importance to the whole United States. It has an opportunity, unaccompanied, we believe, by the disposition, to bring in a report which will be a blueprint for the administration of hospitals for the insane.

Hold-Out

War Changes the Moral Status of a Patent

Technically, the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey had every legal right to allow I. G. Farbenindustrie of Nazi Germany to use its patents for making butyl synthetic rubber. At the time, Germany and the United States were not at war.

Not so easily excused, however, is the fact that until this week these same synthetic rubber patents were unavailable to American industry. Only after almost four months of legal action did Standard Oil release these patents—and then only under the pressure of a Federal indictment charging restraint of trade.

Here again this kind of "business as usual" can be within the letter of the law. Let some judge decide that. But by every standard of patriotism and devotion to one's country it is by all odds one of the most reprehensible pieces of corporate selfishness this war has produced.

Partly as a result of Standard Oil's refusal to share its patent in time of crisis, the nation is still suffering from a rubber shortage. The president of one of America's largest rubber companies testified before closed doors in Washington a few days ago that his company had planned to build huge synthetic rubber plants almost a year ago. But, he said, the Standard Oil boys found out that the process his company had intended using was similar to his own patents, the all company threatened to sue. He testified further that Standard Oil later agreed to allow the process to be used.

By that time, the rubber shortage was upon us. Meanwhile, we may be sure that I. G. Farbenindustrie has been only too glad to take the patents with other synthetic rubber producers in the Reich. It is not difficult to imagine what would happen to an I. G. official who tried to hold out information in order to make some extra profits. In Germany, such offenders do not plead innocence, they confess and get off with a fine. They are, as the Russians say, liquidated.

The United States is fighting for its life. That it should be prevented from making a maximum war effort by the selfishness of any individual or corporation to share a trade secret with competitors is morally indefensible. It could mean the difference between victory and defeat. There is no room on our team this season for hold-outs.

My impression is that more ships are launched, and more quickly, now that banana skins are used on the skids—no clear case of nature imitating the human hand.

The smartest sports convertible job in the neighborhood is now laid up for the duration, and a blonde down the street is learning to walk at the age of 19.

Alfred are people who know all about us and don't let it become a prejudice.

Boy With A Bat

By Dick Young

HE was standing on the sidewalk at Cecil and Seventh Streets—the boy with a bat. Under one arm he was tucked a couple of school books but he held out in front of him a shiny new baseball bat.

THE BOY WITH A BAT WAS STILL THERE. The light changed and automatically I stepped in the gear but I didn't. This I couldn't resist a peek in the rear-view mirror as I sped up Central Avenue. There he was—the boy with the bat and his buddy.

THE CONFERENCE was still on. There were in all offices buildings, news-stands, book stores and everywhere were in progress. Captains of industry were sampling some of the new ideas for the arming of a nation.

THE BOY WITH A BAT WAS STILL THERE. The idea of a "war garden" was being discussed. The idea of a "war garden" was being discussed. The idea of a "war garden" was being discussed.

Letters to the Editors: Call Them "War Gardens"

Editors, The News: We note that the Junior Chamber of Commerce is making an effort to get reduced rates on water for use for "Victory gardens."

1410 Belvidere Ave. Charlotte.

Condemns Whittling Of FSA Appropriations

Editors, The News: Beginning in 1933, Government help was extended to the most underprivileged farm families in the country.

FDR Again Raps Press

By Paul Mallon: MR. ROOSEVELT is looking sharper at the press again, the sharpest of them being all the reporters who are in one paper that is an Ambassador's outfit.

Side Glances

And well it should get credit by loans, by grants, by technical farming advice, by education in better home management, by encouragement to work for food production and preservation, by help in organizing co-operative activities and in making better use of the promotion of sanitation and health, by the provision of needed funds for the better management of the adjustment of debts, and in a host of other ways, the FSA has done a great deal for the relief of the rural population.

Visitin' Around

And When They Left (Heldville Review) Mrs. Pete Harrison and two daughters, Miss Helen Harrison and Mrs. Geoffrey Macklin, spent part of Friday at Belmont.

"Gee—This Is More Fun Than Hitting Each Other?"

By Herb Cook



Letters to the Editors: Call Them "War Gardens"

Editors, The News: So urgently, the so-called "farm bloc" in Congress—most of whose members did not hesitate to vote themselves "pensions for Congressmen"—is willing away at this year's Farm Security Administration appropriation in a way well calculated to kill its usefulness to three needs for the most underprivileged and potentially most valuable elements among our farm people.

Apparently the leader in this reactionary movement is Edward A. O'Neill, president of the Farm Bureau Federation, the organization set up by agricultural and home extension workers some twenty years ago, primarily for relatively well-to-do white holders of moderate or good sized farms.

Mr. O'Neill is a native of Alabama where Negroes constitute a large portion of the population. He has been a leading figure in the promotion of O'Connell's "war garden" program.

1410 Belvidere Ave. Charlotte.

Recalls Use of "Belly-Aching"

Editors, The News: As I read the Inquiring Reporter every night, I just want to say a few words in answer to J. M. Pearson's report in tonight's (March 25) paper.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

But beyond the cross there is the crown: And he that leaveth his cross, and followeth after me, he is not worthy of me. Matt. 10:38.

Side Glances

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"We can write up some swell tire and sugar scandals in our neighborhood if you'll give us a job as reporters."

Ali Jinnah Is Wary

By Raymond Clapper

NEW DELHI, INDIA: MOST of a Hindu and a Muslim in India, quickly plumb over the Moslems' attitude. One-fourth of India's seething millions are Mohammedans.

Small minorities are being ignored. China has a Moslem minority so small it is not a political factor. But India's Mohammedans are a strong political force.

ISLAMIC DISSATISFACTION WOULD RESURGE ELSEWHERE. If, through dissatisfaction with whatever Clippie may propose, Moslem leaders should cry that Islam is being sold in jeopardy by the British, the effect would be felt sharply in Egypt, Palestine, and other areas of the vital Middle East.

Moslems fear rule by Hindus, who constitute a three-quarters majority. This is more than a political issue. It is a religious issue—viewed by Moslems somewhat as Catholics by America might fear rule by the Ku Klux Klan.

JINNAH ONCE FAVORED PARTITIONING INDIA. Later he turned to the Congress, and became head of the All India Moslem League to oppose Hindu domination without adequate protection.

Jinnah refused to support the war effort in India. He is rather politically and undoubtedly resents that, with Japan threatening India, all his hopes cannot become fact.

"The First Battle" is in Washington. Editors, The News: Let me compliment you on the timely written and forceful editorial that you have had in the News for the past few weeks.

1410 Belvidere Ave. Charlotte.

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