

### THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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MONDAY, APRIL 6, 1942

### So Sorry...

The Jap Finds Ceylon Singularly Inhospitable

Altogether, the Axis had a bad day in the air yesterday. The amazing Russians say they got more than a hundred German planes in the air and on the ground. On the Australian front, where there were several raids and counterraids, our side knocked down at least 18 Jap fighters and bombers and damaged 20 more. But by far the most encouraging score was run up when the Japs made an aerial stab at Ceylon.

The attackers were out to pull another Pearl Harbor on the Ceylonese capital of Colombo. Perhaps they intended to soften the big Island for invasion. Holding Ceylon, the Japs would be masters of the whole Bay of Bengal and would dominate the East Coast of India.

India. Whatever the Japs had in mind, it was deemed important enough to risk two or more of the largest Nipponese air-craft carriers in the venture. At least 75 planes some reports say a hundred! took part in the attack. The biggest Jap carriers can launch only about 40 planes. It is safe to assume that the dive bombers and fighters were ship-based craft. Ceylon is more than a thousand miles from the nearest Jap land base and the types of ships used could not have flown that far. flown that far.

have flown that far.

At any rate, the Japa no doubt purposed to catch the British napping at Colombo. Perhaps they thought to find the defenders short on anti-atcraft guns and planes. That might explain their somewhat careless method of attack. The Japa came in low, flying in close formation. It was a bad tactle.

Activatives, unpures and the PAP.

close formation. It was a bad tactic.
Anti-aircraft gunners and the RAF
had a field day. For perhaps the first
time since Japan entered the war, a
100-per-cent British air force was meeting a Jap attack with something approaching countily. The results apeak
for themselves: 27 Jap planes destroyed,
28 hadly hit and probably unable to get
back to their carriers. British losses, although not specified, were described as
"light."
And what of the Jan carriers them

"light."

And what, of the Jap carriers themselves, and their warship escorts? They are peculiarly vulnerable now to Allied bombers and submarines.

The Jap has mada his bid for India, but he has lost the first trick.

#### Cultisant ioner

Without It, Political Gardens Grow a Weedy Crop

Spring brings not only daffodils: it brings elections. And just as the daffo-dil bloom attests to the cultivation for lack of cultivation; which the plant has received aforetime, so the quality of men elected to office testifies somewhat to the interest and concern which the public has taken in them well in advance

lie has taken in them well in advance of the polling day.

Strictly speaking, the election proper won't be held until Fall. But to all practical purposes in this community, the Democratic primary is the election. The primary takes place on May 3d, which is to say in less than two months. Among offices to be filled, over which the community has exclusive centrol, are those of County Chairman, County Commissioners, Sheniff, Judge of County the Solicitor of the fourteenth district, a State office.

Spring a year ago, when the Citizens Croup had its way with the City election, a good deal was said about the greater and continuing exvice this impromptu organization could render by taking part in all local elections. Wheth-

taking part in all local elections. Wheth taking part in all local elections. Whether its supporters still entertain the no-tion we don't know. But we do know that there is always room in any po-plical campaign for the widest possible participation of the people generally as opposed to political factions, and white Tax News by no means endorses all the actions and inactions of the Citizens Group's representatives on the City Council, it feels that the interest of the Citizens Group in any election, particu-larly on the point of offering candidates for key offices, could be of great benefit. This suggestion is, not to be taken, if

This suggestion is not to be taken, if This suggestion is not to be taken, if please all concerned, as being in holesale derogation of either the men he now fill the important places listed wor or the candidates who would offer contest, Some of them are as good could be desired. Others, also small stant readers of TEE NEWS will easily

identify one or two of them), lack a great deal of being acceptable.

In any case, an election such as that which comes up on May 30 should not go by default of general public interest to the most aggressive and tightly-knit political cliques. There is too much of public consequence involved.

### Lesson In Ships

Again We Must Build Them While the Fight Is On

To understand the tremendous odds against us, as the nation struggles to build enough ships for the fighting of a global war, it is helpful to compare the condition of our merchant marine on December 7 last with that of our allies and our enemies. And to reflect upon the facts is to reach the inevitable conclusion that this nation ignored the lesson in shipbuilding taught us the hard way in 1917-1918, just as we unwittingly disregarded most of the other bitter lessons of World War I. Wellweint to war last December, Just as in 1917, with a pitifully inadequate merchant marine. Once again we give forced to build the bulk of the ships we need—and our need is much more desperate this time To understand the tremendous odds

rine. Once again we are forced to build the built of the ships we pred—and our predictions to the ships we pred—and our predictions to the ships we pred—and our predictions with the ships we prediction our folly. Beginning in 1933, when a puny 10,771 total tons of American shipping was launched, Japan has been outbuilding us by a margin of more than two-to-one. In that year Japan built seven times as much shipping as the United States; in 1934, six times as much; in 1935, four and a half times as much; in 1937, twice as much. The coming of war found the United States competing with Italy for fourth place in total tonange among the merchant marines of the world. In size, our fleet was exceeded by the merchant marines of both Japan and Germany. In speed we ranked sixth—inferior even to the former French merchant fleet, in modernization, our merchantme rated a poor seventh—inferior to to the former French merchant martines and the Netherlands as well. Such was the status of the proud nation that had not only broken all records for turning out ships during the first World War. but had in 1919 actually launched half of all the merchant ships built in the whole world.

World War I proved America's capa—

world. War I proved America's capacity to build ships. Why, from the beginning of 1917 until the end of 1920, we built more than 10,000,000 tons of shipping—almost a million tons more than all the beiligreents and all of the neutral nations combined have lost since the present war began. We could have built up for this war, but we didn't. Now we have to make up for the preclous hours lost. And we can do that too, in spite of the painful pounding we are taking off the Eastern seaboard. But it will take just about all the time there is left. It will also take more money than any of us can evaluate, but that is almost beside the point.

Nor is it our purpose to conclude with band plea for patience. This war has not dealt kindly with those nations that, feeling secure in their potentialities, settlied back comfortably to let their superior resources fish their battles. World War I proved America's capa

that, reeing secure in their posential-ties, settled back confortably to let their superior resources fisht them battless appropriate the settlement of the settlement attribute impattence. It is going to take a let of the right kind of dissatisfaction to get the ships built.

It is also a time to remember. There must never come another time, as in 1549, when 70 per cent of our foreign trade is dependent on the merchant marines of other nations. Whether our merchant marine files in the sky or sails on the seas, it must be kept ready in peace to serve us in war. This time we must not forget the lesson.

Of course there is this about burlesque, on which La Guardia has again put the ban in Manhattan: It can't operate under cover.

Any incursion of Japs in India would merely complicate the caste system, as a place would have to be found below the untouchables for the unspeakables.

The plane, as an invention, was all right; it's the people who use it. All God's chillun got wings; but so have the others.

Hospital operations are now taken in technicolor, and if the patient mends in time he can attend his own opening

### The Forts That Stand

By Paul Mallon



THEY said when France fell, the day of the fortress was dead, but Corregidor and Malta are still standing terrific all-bombing attacks the mechanical mind of man has been able to devise.

picte protection.

Communiques have been speaking tersely of nieft assaults by
the Jana sanist Walawricht's line
the Jana sanist Walawricht's line
the Instantian walawrich walawrich
kle in warfare, solen from the
Russian bonk.

There are new wrinkles but not
were well pressed. As the Jana
were well was a sole of the Jana
w

thes in the mark.
AREMAL PROFOGRAPHY USED
TO DIRECT NIGHT FIRE
In preparation for the night altack aerial pholographs are made
of certain American positions. The
suns are set and when darkness
falls, they blaze away at the fixed
invisible noint.
Generally, hits night artillery

falls, they blaze away at the fixed neivisible noist. Bright artillery barrage prenerally the way for in partial properties of the propert

naissance.

Fighting generally is threefourths confusion, but at night it is
nine-tenths melec. Results to date
testify to its ineffectiveness so far.

led its his surement mashid as putting them ort mutil last.

The way Meachtur broke them from the state of the surement of the

# "Hello-Sweden? How's Things With You?"



# The Price Of Understanding

By Amy G. Bassett

TO MARKET, TO MARKET FOR PLENTY OF EVERYTHING

TO MARKET, TO MARKET FOR PLENTY OF EVERYTHING
TO AND I went to market, a market full to the top-most shelves
household needs. It is called the
household needs. It is called the
Super-something," market, and
the children love it because they
will be the beautiful to the control of the
super-something, market, and
the children love it because they
will be the beautiful to the control
from the counters and shelves. The
only thing so far restricted is sugar and even that is given out with,
are it in me store there are always other stores to shop it. There
was a huge pile of banamas in one
corner, and as I looked at them, I
are no banamas in the whole of
England-neither for children nor
grown-ups, and no matter how
much a child might need that der
wery dear old friend of butter,
and I remembered then that a
wery dear old friend of minedear the control of the control
is slowed only non-town and
the control of the control
is slowed only non-town and
the control
is not the control
is not

MEAT TO FEED AND FOR FEASTING

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N. J.

SINGE this ta Navy family,
and the Navy side of it has a
real job—a job that has to fie with
what happens off this Eastern seaboard. I get all my official information as to what goes on in the
war right out of the newspapers
war right out of the newspapers
sometimes it feels as though I got
less. Also, since to talk "shop" is
the only interesting form of conversation! Tecognize these days, I
sometimes find myself carrying on
casionally gets away from me and
falls into the question minus-answer formula—the question being
mine and the no-nawer bis.
THE NAVY ANSWERS SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N. J.

swer formula—the question being mine and the no-answer his mine and a promising dealy found mynelf going strong and asying: "Well, anyway, I read one of your tankers, when he was rescued off the New Jersey coast, and that he couldn't help himself—that all the lights were ill, up on the normal tender of the new Jersey coast, and that he couldn't help himself—that all the lights were ill, up on the new Jersey coast, and that he submarine had a perfect target. Why can't you make those towns along the coast put out the! Pights like England dees?

Lights like England dees?

As a frog lumps at a piece of red flannel held under his nose, he bit," and the words were cold. See a frog lumps at a piece of red flannel held under his nose, he bit," and the words were cold. See a frog lumps at a piece of red flannel held under his nose, he bit," and the words were cold. See a frog lumps at a piece of red flannel held under his nose, he bit," and the words were cold. See a frog lumps at a piece of red flannel held under his nose, he bit," and the words were cold. As a frog lumps at a piece of red flannel held under his nose, he bit, and he ware cold and the see a from the see a flannel held was a piece of red flannel held wa

out a word, brought me a huge plate of food—meat any everyning, and J. Booked at her word,
while and the second of the second

IN CONVOYS, THERE IS JUST SO MUCH ROOM

MUSIT WE LONE 0.000
TO UNDERSTAND WAR?
Sixty thousand men, women and children have died the Hiller way in England, since that way of war began. That is how England knows that dar our people herr before we begin to work, and to fight, and to stop living our tight little compared to the compared to the

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

We are known by little mannerisms, small virtues and faults as well as by great deeds: And they rehearsed the things that happened in the way, and how he was known of them in the breaking of the bread.—Luke 24:35.

# Our Front

By Raymond Clapper

CALCUTTA: INDIA



big supply bases in the future stages of the war. Vast re-sources will be needed.

a ources will be needed.

Also, India is straight in the path of Japan, and if the were knocked out it would be a disastrous blow.

We are in war all over the world, no less here than in Northern Ireland. This is no longer just a place in the movies, where people wear funny clother; it is where Americans, from many states, will be for the rest of the war. It is no longer the romantic land of Kipling, (Igers and elephanta, but a place where three times the population of America has possibilities of signatic war effort. Fractically, however, it will be lucky if even moderate effort is achieved.

NATIVE INNISTRIANCE

### NATIVE INDUSTRIALISTS ARE PROFIT-HUNTERS

ARE PROFIT-HUNTERS

The toughest obstacle is the attitude of some native industrialists. A visitor hears much compilate about the British, but for hard-shelde, profit-hunting individualists, regardless of seneral consequences, the native industrialists would be hard to beat. Example: Their galation segaints a "scorded earth" policy, of which the Government presumably it thinking in event of Japanece Invasion.

cee invasion.

Gandhi's friend, the industrialist
Birls, is one of the leading oppo-nents of the scorched earth pelley, Several Chambers of Commerce, the Bengal Mill Owners' Associa-tion, and other native industrialist, joined in a petition to the Govern-ment oppositing it as inadvisable and unnecessary.

Contrast this attitude with that of Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, who said on her recent visit here: "We do not leave them (the invaders) a bowl of rice."

## APPEAL MADE AGAINST SCORCHED EARTH POLICY

SCORCHED EARTH POLICY
At a recent meeting of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce,
one leader appealed to the Government
not to destroy industry built up by private effort. He said it would not
only be a heavy blow to owners, but
would discourage millions of workers
by destruction of their means of livelihood.

lihood.

This concern for saving private property, even at the risk of allowing the Japanese to capture it, well illustrates the menial attitude of many native interests here toward the war.

creats here toward the war.

As the newspaper Calcutta Statesman said editorially: When you find a man who is against the scorched carth policy, or wants some city declared an open town, you see a man without fight in him. It called such speeches as those citied above sheeting and shameful evidences of defeatist mentality, When the newsy retreats, he desiress. the enemy retreats, he destroys everything, so property would not be saved in the end anyway.

Although this is the baid picture at the moment, many qualified persons tell me that a Cripps settlement would re-sult in fundamental change. I am inclined to believe they are right. Nehru probably would be a different man once he actually had power to lead India.

### FIFTH COLUMN HAS FERTILE FIELD

HAS FERTILE FIELD

If there were no change in menial
attitude generally, then a settlement
would merely throw India to the Japanese, because the current apathy would
be a perfect field for lifth eclumn work.
But, once the shackles are off and
the issue of independence is solved, it
must be that the people of India will
respond proudly and patriotically to
fight for their own country. It is hardly
possible that human nature is od difforms, here from that of every other

possible that human nature is so dif-ferent here from that of every other country, regardless of race.

The Chinese have the same long history of pacifism, but they certainly are fighting for their own country now.

#### Visitim' Around

(20 Years Ago, Chester Reporter)

Chester Reporter)
Out in parts of the Baton Rouge
country they say some of the moonshiners have grown so bold that they
are actting their barrels about in the
woods so carelessly that folks' hogs are
tumbling in and getting drowned.

(Hillside Hem/ Winnsboro News & Herald)

Winnsboro News & Herald)
Several gentlemen have had gardens
cleaned of all dead weeds. One job was
as thoroughly performed that It included everything on a flower bed. Always something for which to be thankfull—the flower seeds hadn't aprouted
very well anyway.

### Side Glances



"The movie at the neighborhood theater isn't very good, so we thought it would be nice to drop in for an evening with friends for a change."