

## THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 1942

## Contrast

## It Starts With Money But Goes Deeper Than That

The Governor's Committee to Investigate the State Hospital at Morganton last night will begin its work on a treat yesterday. Before it, upon the treatment of South Carolina's Hospital for the Insane. For three hours a half, careful always to avoid any political comparisons as between institutions or between states, he talked, and committee drank it all in.

The most obvious contrast between the North and South Carolina hospitals that of funds appropriated by their respective Legislatures. In South Carolina the appropriation per patient per year was about \$278 as against Morganton's \$177, and a difference of \$101 in limited amounts would represent a difference of \$101 in the state of a nation has only been scratched by USHA's developments so far, and scratched only by the unsound device of subsidies. The real job is yet to be undertaken. It remains as a challenge to private industry the meeting of which could well be industry's No. 1 post war activity.

There was more to it, however, than that. Those who heard this South Carolina psychiatrist could not but be convinced that his institution received patients with an understanding solicitude, as though to say, "Come in, and we will take care of you. We will cure and restore you." Whereas Morganton, as has been clearly established, the attitude of the place on being in a bewildered patient is, "Un-til the door; here comes another un-til."

## Death Toll

## British Losses Speak A Truth, a Warning

The two-year casualty totals of the British Empire may show the world the true side of the grim face of war. Until September, 1941, the United Kingdom, Dominions and Colonies had lost 183,000 men from the armed services, including natural deaths—but only 48,073 deaths. That figure does not include civilian deaths under bombing and shelling, and was the military price paid in British lives.

Lacking an official estimate of the strength of the British forces during those years, the numbers of dead, wounded, prisoners and missing may be compared only to the population of the Empire. In all the lands, there is a comparatively small population of over 504 million. The death rate for two years is an infinitesimal fraction of one per cent. Loss of life has been much lighter than in the first World War.

In that struggle, the Empire, its home countries always protected by France, lost in all over three million men (in all categories), or over 35 per cent of its armed forces. But now with the big battles of the West, the British Empire will be fought, Britain may well expect to see the terrible toll grow tremendously. Therein, is a hard lesson for the U. S., fighting over most of the world.

American deaths in the World War were only 128,000, but in this war are likely to increase as rapidly as those of the first World War. Britain has a share of the costliest price, making sure that we do not suffer the fate of the conquered Germany and Austria alone lost 14 million men in World War I.

At least the British figures prove that he old wars from Australia, uttered in the days of bitter defeat, are not true. Europe is being fought, the Dominions. And though the total indicates that a nation may fight to fight with full force in a major and engagement faces a comparatively light casualty list—the warning is plain.

When England and the U. S. leave the hit-and-run tactics behind and relate to the front, the fighting fronts, the front in loss of life will dwarf that of any other times.

## City's Callers

## Housing Authority Came Bearing a Nice Check

City Hall nearly fell over in a faint Monday. A delegation had arrived bringing, not asking for, a donation.

The \$5,543 check which Chairman Edwin Jones of the Housing Authority handed over to Mayor Currier was a tangible exhibit of the excellent man-

agement Charlotte's low-cost housing enterprises have had from the beginning. Indeed, in being able to command the services of Mr. Jones, a busy man, and his busy associates on the Authority, the City is assured that this is one collateral undertaking which is in good hands.

Low-cost housing on the Federal model, rents at the scale fixed are insufficient to pay for the upkeep and amortization of Piedmont Courts and Fairview Homes. The difference is supplied by a considerable cash subsidy by the United States Housing Authority plus an exemption of taxes by the local government, and doubtless a good many housing authorities over the country use up their full subsidy and cry for more. Charlotte, we daresay, is exceptional.

In any case, the field of better and cheaper housing for the lowest one-third of a nation has only been scratched by USHA's developments so far, and scratched only by the unsound device of subsidies. The real job is yet to be undertaken. It remains as a challenge to private industry the meeting of which could well be industry's No. 1 post war activity.

## Enough

## The Lumberton USO Fight Disturbs a Big Program

We are of the opinion that every passing day of continued attack by Lumberton masters on the U. S. O. contributes just as much more to a confused disunity in a broad, and extremely worthwhile program. The efforts of Dr. Durham are not limited to delivering burning charges from the pulpit. The controversy has spread to all agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The executive committee of the General Board of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina has turned its attention to the problem, and disclaiming any intention "to injure the U. S. O. in any way," has given the facts to the Baptist people so they may "act as their consciences may dictate."

In an attempt to break Catholic "control" over the Lumberton U. S. O. center, five citizens have appealed to Governor Broughton to remove U. S. O. from Lumberton. So far as we are able to determine from following the case through and from reports of Dr. Durham's recent speech, the battle cannot be disguised as one in behalf of the soldiers. It seems to be a simple matter of a Baptist attack upon the Catholic Church.

The ministers express alarm that 35 per cent of U. S. O. funds in the South are administered by the Catholics. They have not, apparently, stopped to think that a great many of the soldiers quartered in the area are Catholics. In the June U. S. O. report, figures show that the National Catholic Community Service spent \$344,953—as against \$854,748 for the YMCA, YWCA, Salvation Army and Jewish Welfare Board. Of them all, the YMCA spent the largest amount.

In Dr. Durham's fiery philippic of Sunday night, after deploring the situation in an emotional appeal, he offered a service to the U. S. O. but in general. Any soldiers who wished, he said, might come pray with him at special services. It was a generous offer—but Dr. Durham thinks the soldier would prefer to spend his brief leave in that fashion rather than "do a little dancing," he doesn't know his U. S. Army.

The Baptists have rendered the nation a service in presenting the issue as an open-minded fight against U. S. O. control by any religious group. But from the evidence we have seen, we think no man could rightly concede the attack to have been pressed without the exhibition of bias and bigotry.

It is hoped that gold rapidly reacquires its old value with the coming of peace, as our thought was a 1949 centennial rush, on Fort Knox.

War romances don't always stand up in the cold light of the morning after, and love at first sight in a blackout is not to be trusted.

At Columbia Teachers College, a food schedule is worked out by which a family of five may live on \$10 a week. Not on and on; just live.

## The Old Days Are Gone Forever

## The War Hits Hard In New England

From The New Yorker

THE other day a friend of mine complained to me about Leon Henderson. Freezing orders have been pouring out of Henderson's OPA in so dazzling a rush that no one took much notice a few weeks ago when Henderson told us that unless by June they froze all residential rents voluntarily, the Government would probably be compelled to issue a freezing order.

When this order, he told me, goes into effect, he assumes it will, we'll see the most drastic Governmental control of property since the war in this country. War or no war, he didn't care for it and he wasn't at all sure it was necessary. Among other sinister effects, he said, leases will be nullified and law governing the eviction of tenants will be altered in the tenants' favor.

I decided to take a train, more or less at random, to one of a half-dozen war-bomb Connecticut cities, choosing a Connecticut town for my excursion because it is such areas as industrial New England, the City is assured that this is one collateral undertaking which is in good hands.

I arrived in my town on a bright May morning in 1942. The station, where the platforms were piled with freight, I walked down

## Labor's Chance

By Paul Mallon

WASHINGTON  
LABOR has had a good chance during this war to learn how Government ownership and operation works out.

Certain experiments in socialization in the Government, some of them, have been acquired in the kind of nationalization in the U. S. O. which the British have been advocating as a post-war system, and that some unthinking liberals in this country lean toward also.

The Government took over and operated the Brewster Aviation Co., turning it back about three weeks ago to private management. Before Government operation, it had a closed shop and a check-off.

But while the Government was in control it had nothing, not even the right to strike. When the Government took over the plant, labor became the servant of the public and lost all its rights, which could be restored only when those workers became private employees again.

Earlier in the Kravyn shipbuilding plant, striking workers wanted a union of maintenance shop (officially the same as closed) and (official union leaders) urged the Government to take over the plant when they could not get their desires by negotiation with the management.

The Government accepted their invitation, to their regret. The Navy ran the plant, but without union of maintenance or any other shop, and when the plant was turned back to the workers, it still without its objective. It would have been against the law for the government to have done otherwise.

TVA has about 37,000 employees and a majority are members of the West. Communist, proposed British or American varieties.

Such a good friend of labor as Mr. Roosevelt, the realities of the situation in a letter to Federal employees Aug. 16, 1937—a letter which had been entitled: "The Case against Socialism."

He wrote: "The very nature and purpose of government make it impossible for administrative officials... to bind themselves to any particular organization... with Government employees or organizations."

"Upon employees in the Federal service, it is the obligation to serve the whole people, whose interests and welfare require that they be free from the influence of Government activities. This obligation is paramount."

Any union man who works for socialism then is working to nullify his union and destroy his civil rights. If you have been thinking that it would be a good post-war policy for the Government to own the means of production, for instance, U. S. Steel or General Motors or North American Aviation, you are really proposing to wipe out all the gains labor has made under a free management system. It is the right to strike or to demand pay increases as in Germany, Italy, Russia.

Could any more convincing proof be offered that labor has been misled again in this instance, that its real future depends upon maintenance of a private profit system, and that its real interests require it to work for profit for management as well as itself, because labor cannot walk a dry cow?

Main Street to the old-fashioned brownstone town hall. One of that anonymous brotherhood of idlers you find in the lobby of any town hall suggested that I speak to a young lawyer upstairs who was acting as head of a municipal fair-tenants committee. I found him in an office on the third floor, listening to his daily quota of complaints; a queue of Negroes, Poles, Italians, and Yankees stood outside his door. I introduced myself, and the young lawyer leaned back in his chair and lit a cigarette.

"Not that our committee has ever had any legal power," he said. "We've just listened to the workers and tried to whip the landlords into line. And we've failed. That's why we're glad the OPA has stepped in to clean up the mess. Nobody else could do anything about it."

"How do the landlords up here feel about this order?" I asked.

"You should hear them," he said. "It's hard on them. That's what one of them shouted at me this morning." The young lawyer shrugged, and kept on. "Sure, it's bound to hurt some of the good landlords too, but the ones that have been in busi-

ness a long time. But most of these newcomers, these smart apples, are getting just what they asked for."

"You probably never saw this place before the boom," said the young lawyer. "Maybe we were a little provincial. I went to Columbia, so I guess I ought to know. But we got along all right. I read once that we were one of the richest towns in the United States. He flipped his cigarette into a spittoon, and continued, "Sure, the old sections of town were getting pretty seedy, but that's been going on here for 300 years."

"But now—I'm telling you! Ten or fifteen thousand people have moved into town in the last two years, people looking for big money in the factories. We got no place to put them. So a lot of foxey little speculators have come in and bought up every old house they could find and packed them to the roof with war workers. They've been making a killing."

I asked him what would happen when the boom was over.

"You're asking me," he said. "Look, why don't you take a little walk out beyond the factories? You'll see a lot more for yourself."

## Back to the Back Yard

—By Herblock



## Letters to the Editor: Make The Huns Suffer

Editors, The News:

I agree with you 100 per cent in your editorial titled "German People Must Be Held For Accounting." You point out that this time "the second fatal error of our times" will be made if the Allies fail to make these people suffer for their "perpetual and damnable belligerency."

Five times within the last 85 years these people have invaded and engaged in warfare upon the lands and with the people of neighboring nations. Literally millions of human beings upon this earth in recent months have died prematurely, horribly and unnecessarily because of the belligerency of this warlike nation.

Neither men, women nor children have been spared. Why then the part of certain recently converted? Fascists and so-called pacifists?

If General Pershing's advice had been followed at the end of World War I, if the German nation had been held as guilty as the Kaiser-in-exile, this world-wide conflagration could have been avoided. The Allies had better not make the same mistake again.

MRS. E. G. HENDRICKS,  
Dallas, N. C.

## He Doesn't Agree With Dr. Durham

Editors, The News:

I think the paper and the Rev. Mr. Durham should be ashamed of Monday's tirade against another religion at a time when our country needs absolute unity. The story referred to was a report of Dr. Durham's Lumberton sermon of Sunday night.

And if the Reverend thinks that the boys in the Army would rather have a nice quiet place to pray in than a place to dance and be

entertained—he should let them have the address of his church. I'm sure they would find consolation and peace of mind listening to a man of the cloth teach hatred of his own countrymen. —MYLES BELL, Broadway Theater, Charlotte.

than I can tell you. Your guess is as good as mine concerning the future. Maybe you'll see why the OPA has stepped into this thing. Never so much money in town. Never such buying power. Such packed movies. We even got a night club built onto one of our distilleries. And the town is ruined. The boom's turning it. The tax rate's going up and the municipal services are going down. Too many transient kids to educate, too many transient fires to put out, too much transient garbage to collect. But not a dollar of transient taxes! Everybody's got his pockets full, but everybody feels like this. He held his head between his hands and rocked it back and forth. "Crazy? You go out and see."

I asked a new landlord if I might see his house. The man had a dust cloth in his hand. He explained, shyly, that he did all the cleaning, his wife cooked, and a colored girl came by the day to make the beds and wait on the table. Except for the dining room, a man and his wife and child in the library. They were allowed the use of the bathroom at the head of the stairs.

The girls who had come from North Carolina and

worked as inspectors of gun barrels, paid \$28 a week apiece in a room and board. Presumably they were earning between \$38 and \$48 a week. The head of the family was earning around \$80 a week. The landlord said that at first he had charged a rate of only \$38. "But when I found out," he said, "what the guy was earning."

Upstairs, there were five bedrooms. Three of them held two cots apiece, the two others held three cots. The twelve cots were all occupied by workers at the aircraft plants, who paid the same rates as the girls downstairs. This is beginning to sound like big business," I said.

"Sure it is," the landlord said. "Sure it is. A week down stairs and \$420 a week up here. But the third floor is where we charge so much," he went on, "that we get a good profit. We don't serve these roomers any meals. We rent the same cots to workers in different rooms. We can't bother to board them. There are three shifts a day at the factories, but we get a good profit. It's boys to two shifts a day here."

## Putting On Steam

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON

SOME AUTHORITIES believe that within another month the British and Canadian ship construction program will pass the rate of submarine sinkings.

That expectation is based on two factors: first, the declining rate of sinkings, and second, the rising rate of ship production.

Measures taken over the last few weeks against submarines are showing encouraging results. More anti-submarine craft are also being thrown into this counter-attack. Because the news of sinkings is given out belatedly and in dribsels, if at all, the country has not been fully alerted. The latest news has been suffering at the hands of enemy submarines. With production of ships far in excess of anything ever seen, we are still losing ships faster than new ones are being built. And the demand for shipping is going up steadily as our foreign trade grows, requiring ever-larger cargoes of supplies.

We have licked the airplane production problem. Even the danger of an aluminum shortage, which was causing real worry a few months ago, appears to have been overcome. American air strength is being felt all over the world and it is just the beginning. American tanks are in action in Libya and Russia and are being accumulated in other places for future action. Only in shipping have we suffered loss of strength instead of rapid growth.

Our plane production, our tank production, our case training of an army can be felt only to the extent that we have ships to carry the men and the materials to the war zones.

The answer to that is probably our most pressing need now.

The job that has been done rates close to a miracle. Certainly it has met with the strongest approval around the White House. American shipyards produced slightly more than 1,000,000 tons in 1941. This year they will produce 8,000,000 tons. Next year it will be at least 15,000,000 tons. It will be sufficient steel it would be 20,000,000 tons. Production of nine shipyards show that all except two are meeting or passing the accelerated schedules laid down for them.

Some months ago considerable time was being lost by labor delays. Most of that has been eliminated. Still it always is possible to increase output if the need arises. It is sufficiently far now in more needed than increased ship production. The whole future of the war rests on that. The men making engines in Middle Western factories, the men making lifeboats in Indiana, men who have anything to do with making parts of a ship, are now carrying the responsibility for winning the war. Troops, planes and weapons are waiting on ships. The need is not for more shipyards but rather to speed up still more the output from those in existence. Because the summer of ships that go into operation this Summer and Fall and next Winter will determine whether it is to be a short war or a long one.

## Visitin' Around

These Others Probably Followed Her Off

(North Wilkesboro Herald)

Mr. A. Sturdivant went to Ashe County last week and bought a Asha County milk cow and bought a Asha County cow.

"Boys and girls haven't changed much in 30 years, have they?"