

The daily edition of The Charlotte News was established in 1888. The Evening Chronicle was established in 1903 and was consolidated with The Charlotte News May 8, 1914.

The News desires to be notified promptly of errors in any of its reports that proper correction may be made at once.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS AND WIDE WORLD The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for publication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited to this paper, and also the local news published herein.

Subscription Rates: By carrier: two cents a week; one month, 57 cents. By mail: One month, 57 cents; three months, \$2.00; six months, \$3.50; one year, \$10.40.

THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1942

Our Dishonor State's Crime Tide Rises In Brutal Assault Wave

The wave of brutal crime which has swept this section of North Carolina in recent weeks has brought to us an intolerable situation which must be dealt with in the most forceful fashion open to law enforcement officers. Criminal assault, rape and attempted rape by soldiers and civilians alike must be checked, now. With this, there can be no compromise.

Not in the memory of the state have so many such cases occurred in such a space of time. It is, we think (without benefit of advice from a psychologist), by-product of war; the meanest one of all. We have every confidence that the law will be quick to exact the severest penalty in every case.

This is the dark record of the past few days; here is the roll of the state's dishonor: Ralph Golus of Newton, civilian, life sentence when found guilty of attacking a 62-year-old neighbor woman.

Richard Barnes of Newton, accused of attacking a twelve-year-old girl. Hubert Williams of Elerbe, accused of attacking his fourteen-year-old niece. Quentin Palmer, soldier, and Clyde Henry, civilian, accused of attacking girl in Kannapolis. Ed Palmer, brother to Quentin Palmer, caught in case of attempted assault six weeks ago.

An unknown soldier, sought in Monroe for a brutal two-hour attack of a 26-year-old prominent churchwoman. These mean not only menace, but ruin. The long list, we fear, will grow longer, longer because the war has generated an imbalance in the civilian population, and because the state harbors so great a number of soldiers. In both cases which have been tried, we may note with satisfaction, life sentences have been given without a waste of time. With the action in such a mood, all others found guilty face the same fate.

Most of the civilians tried or accused have been settled, married men, moved tranquilly by what we assume are wartime conditions. The cases involving soldiers are fewer, but more to be expected. Where thousands of men are isolated in encampments, such cases are inevitable.

We think it far better, if these criminal assaults are to continue, that officials relax in their drive on camp-surrounding areas. The men who turn hostile needles loose upon the population. These, apparently, are times of madness. They call for a heavy hand, within the Army and without.

War Of Stealth Dry Crops Gain Victories Over Wets Sans Fanfare

Almost daily, the nation comes closer to a second embrace of prohibition and its evils. The advancing lines of the dry crops, attempting no blitzkrieg, have taken new positions in many a state and are almost ready to take the entire nation back behind the Eighteenth Amendment. The war on liquor progresses, apparently, without the public knowledge, but it progresses nonetheless.

The dries, who refused to admit defeat in repeal, are making no claims themselves. The trends are obvious in figures tabulated by the dry camps during 1941, indicating the course and velocity of the wind, there were 158 changes in local options in the country, with 131 of them ending in victory for the dries, only 27 in wet victories.

Those skirmishes were the dries a gain of almost 300,000 population in dry territory which, added to the twenty-three million Americans already living in non-liquor areas, made quite a start in the national drive. Today, over seventeen per cent of the country's population lives in legally dry territory.

There are four states with legalized liquor sales in which more than half the population is cut off from legal liquor. Of those four, North Carolina is the one with almost seventy-two per cent, with almost seventy-two per cent. At this point, it is, of course, that those four states might also be added to the dries state-wide referendums came. And North Carolina, having voted to return to the dry ways and been backed by the majority of the eyes on tax revenue, is spilling to dry up officially at this time.

Important local options. The swing is on. And the victory that was once won will mean nothing unless anti-prohibitionists awake to the peril that approaches. An encore comes.

Grim Returns Small Casualty Toll Only Points to Black Future

The figures were small, almost reassuring at first. But they were black, upon reflection, with omens of the future. They were the American casualties of over seven months of war, to the number of 44,143. There was, of course, no mention of percentage, so there was no yardstick for the grim measuring.

Only a few less than 5,000 were dead, even fewer were wounded. The startling statistic dealt with the army of the missing, and that was sobering. Most of the 36,124 were of the gallant little army of Bataan, presumably lodged in Jap camps as prisoners of war.

The services, lacking any report of that great body of men, had to assume that they were prisoners. They had to assume, also, that they were being treated as such. There was no way of knowing their fate, but for Americans there was a suspicion, and that suspicion made the communique a depressing thing. In the only pitched battles Americans have fought to date, almost all of them have died or been taken prisoner.

The total served to emphasize, too, that the price we must pay in the months that lie ahead is to be tremendous. The review only refreshed the American memory that our fighting men have not yet been in the thick of this war. When the offensive comes, the small figures said, the land will know our real military strength.

Superior equipment, produced in greater quantities, is going to be no guarantee against great losses. In the first World War our casualties were only 550,000 (including dead, wounded, missing and prisoners). This time, when the big wars start, the losses will be astronomical by comparison. The little figures of the week brought grief, but not like that of tomorrow.

Penny Profiteers State Health Officer Hits At Dishonest Druggists

Dr. Carl V. Reynolds, the state health officer, was overdue, but doubly welcome when he finally arrived. He had to take only one shot, even with a too-small gun, to put another group of cheap little profiteers on the run.

To the druggists and dealers who have been changing an extra penny for drinks served in paper cups, he was an action man. Dr. Reynolds has suggested only that the names of such dealers should be published. Their case needs more attention than that.

For several months soda fountain operators have charged the public the extra penny, making them even playing signs claiming that paper cups have increased in price, and made the charge necessary. Most publicized cases have been noted around Camp Davis and Fort Bragg, and are being dealt with by the OPA. Reynolds is shooting at the hundreds of others, all over the state.

Charlotte has more than its share of them. Weeks ago paper salesmen here said that no price increase on cups was in effect, and that cheating dealers were simply turning themselves an extra profit on every thousand cups used (something over a dozen cups are usually considered an operating expense). Customers protested, not only because of the slightly increased price, but because they were often forced to drink from glasses, which they did not trust to be sanitary.

According to Dr. Reynolds, an expert in the field, the use of glasses, regardless of precautionary regulations, will tend to spread disease. The guilty dealers indicated that they cared little for the danger, so long as the pennies came in. It is his hope that authorities will put an end to the practice, and not trust to a publication of names, to turn the trick.

Who killed Heydrich would have been examined in the gay days of the Chicago society. One would expect to have examined the card attached to the largest funeral wreath.

Sitting In on the Second-Front Talks



In Early Elections Congressmen Hang On

WASHINGTON By Paul Mallon

THE campaign of the New Republic, the Luce publications and some others to clean out this Congress seem to have fallen flat so far as the primaries are concerned. No more than normal casualties among sitting Congressmen are reported from the electoral front.

A tabulation made by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, for its own information only, shows that out of the first 115 Congressmen to face the voters in primaries thus far, no more than ten have failed of re-nomination. Most of these were involved in personal situations, having nothing to do with the isolationist-internationalist dispute.

The temper of the electorate thus obviously is shown to be extraordinarily complacent. The antagonism to Congress which has gained so much popular publicity has nowhere been reflected in either displays of Washington inefficiency, but so far it is wholly lacking in the enthusiasm required to go to the polls and vote "no."

The pollsters explain this phenomena with the assumption that everyone is busy in war work, in the Army, or out of it. Farmers are being driven down hard by rationing and other displays of Washington inefficiency, but so far it is wholly lacking in the enthusiasm required to go to the polls and vote "no."

Four states in the South have not held primaries. Florida, Alabama, Oklahoma and North Carolina, and only two Congressmen failed. Pro-Roosevelt Luther Patrick from Alabama became a mad success species which were never interpreted in the humorous way they were intended (say his friend and Wilbur Wright lost in Oklahoma because he got in a personal row with the Governor.

Out in the middle West: All were re-nominated in Iowa. In Illinois, a Democratic Leo Kowalski lost out because the Cook County machine had another job in mind for him, and he foolishly thought he could win anyway. One Republican, George H. Paddock, lost because former Representative Ralph Church wanted his old job

Platform Of The People Textile Worker's Plaint

Editors, The News: If you hear anyone predicting that our standard of living will be lowered before this war is over, tell them to visit Reichmond County textile plants. If the living standards of employees here gets any lower than it is at present, it will mean starvation, especially in the vicinity of Rockingham.

I am a card reader in one of the local mills. Our pay on the average is about \$17 a week. Five or six men with a family living at present on that. The Little Steel employees ask for \$1 per day raise, and are given 44 cents—getting pay increases as the cost of living keeps rising.

But the poor, unorganized, unrepresented textile employees slaves on for bread and whatever else his employer sees fit to give him while the orders continue to roll in to the big boys. When this boom is over and the depression comes, the big boys will call our employers will ride, smoothly and take their easy on the profits they have reaped—which they rightly should share with us.

Now, most of the textile employees around Rockingham are against unions. That is just the way the big boys would have you

to destroy U. S. Names Frank P. Graham, President of U. of N. C. with Others." Now who would have thought that our President would think of a man for the New York gubernatorial race to be made on the basis of support of the Roosevelt foreign policy before Pearl Harbor. But the Democratic leaders were not ahead of the game who did not fill that particular requirement. So, it goes everywhere.

The Administration well knows if it opens a campaign of bitter partisanism to undo its old political opponents, they will fight back with the evidence of inadequate Administration preparations for war before the above-mentioned radicals was a strong pro-war man; Moser and Schulte were classed as isolationists.

Londonderry, Northern Ireland Company Expected

By Ernie Pyle

LONDON, NORTHERN IRELAND. (PYLE IN THE TOWN WHERE AMELIA EARHART, BASED ON HER FIRST FLIGHT IN 1931, WAS SHOT DOWN AND THIS IS THE TOWN WHERE THE AMERICAN NAVY HAS ESTABLISHED ITS FIRST BASE ON THE SHORE OF THE IRELAND NARRAGANSETT AND MARINES ARE FINDING IT AN INTERESTING PLACE.)

I always thought Londonderry was a village, probably a place with only a few stores and no hotels. Actually it is a town, the biggest in Northern Ireland. The population today is around 40,000. It has two railroad stations, several movies, a large business district, a lovely cathedral, a Woodway (18- and 19-century mansions known as THE DIAMOND, with a World War statue in the middle).

Londonderry is a place of hills. You can stand at certain high points and look down upon the city. The most striking thing to an American eye is the few acres of little chimneys sticking up from long lines of brick houses. The houses make almost a wall, and the chimneys send smoke into the damp air as an Irish night for years.

Londonderry is a terrifically old city. It was even older when the Great Siege came in 1689. The siege was Londonderry's most historic moment. It is spoken-of often, just as the Great Fire is spoken of in San Francisco.

The old wall built around the city still stands intact. Of course the city was much smaller then, so the wall now encloses only the center part of town. It is as high as a second-story window, and so wide you could drive a car on top of the wall. The Archers have been out so that when you are driving to the center of town you drive right through the wall.

The city is not on the coast, nor even on a bay. It is several miles up the River Foyle. The river is no wider here than the Ohio at Cincinnati. Nothing bigger than a destroyer can get up this far.

The summer here is one of daily rain. In fact it rains a couple of dozen times every day. There may be a week of rain coming down in torrents, and then 30 seconds later the sun will be beaming—and vice versa. The result is that everything is gloriously green. The rolling countryside is a joy to see. You go around half wet all the time, but despite the dampness and chill Perry seems to me several degrees warmer than Belfast, on the east coast.

Derry has had only one bombing. That was a year ago last Easter, the same night that Belfast was so badly bombed. They say only one bomb was dropped here, but it made a prize hit and killed more than 20 people.

There has been only one alarm since the Americans came. That was a couple of months ago, in daytime. No bombs were dropped. It was a reconnaissance plane.

But Derry lives an uneasy life. She expects something before it's over, and she is ready. Brick surface shelters are seen everywhere in the city squares, and huge shoulder-high concrete tanks of water. Barrage balloons float above the city and the suburbs. Hospitals have their beds cleared for a sudden avalanche of victims.

The people of Derry keep wondering why America decided to release the news of the existence of new naval bases. Of course they know Germany didn't have to read the papers to find out what they do feel that it was sort of like an invitation, a sort of challenge to Germany to do something about it.

Side Glances



"I'm sure you'll be delighted to hear that our beloved secretary is doing his part by permitting his chauffeur to work nights in a war plant!"

After The Battle Millions Of Thanks

(Last week, while the House of Representatives was battling its hardest for the bill, the guiding hand was that of North Carolina's Mueley Bob Houghton, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. At the end of the long fight Houghton, a superb courteous gentleman, expressed his thanks thus—Editors, The News.)

From The Congressional Record Mr. Chairman, I yield myself three minutes.

Mr. Chairman, I would be very unhappy and indeed ungrateful were I not to express my profound, sincere, and heartfelt appreciation of the many generous things that have been said of me during the progress of this debate.

As has been so well said by my kind friend and distinguished colleague the ranking minority member of our committee, than whom there is no other statesman, than whom there is no more diligent and useful member of our committee, my kind friend Allen Treadway, the committee work hard and I appreciate not only the kind things said by him but by many other colleagues in this chamber and on the committee, too numerous to mention.

I shall remember until the last hour of my life the courteous words and kind expressions that have been indulged in for me. If I should ever on account of anything I have ever done, but of one thing there is no doubt in my mind.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT Those who cannot stand hard trials are not true metal. God can't use them. Behold I have refined thee, but not with silver. I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.—Isaiah 48:10.

Visitin' Round The Fuller Life (Kings Quack Item) Lenor News-Tops: Hard times are about over with plenty of beans, trial potatoes and juicy apples.