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And Evening Chronicle

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1942

A New Day Dawns

The Governor Calls at Morganton and Leaves a Vigorous Message

By God, sirs, it is an inspiration to see the Governor of a State begin to attend to the grievous shortcomings of one of its institutions. In the first place, it was significant that Governor Broughton chose to send himself to Morganton to meet with the trustees of that hospital instead of sending a communication or a subordinate. And the stand he has taken there, one which the trustees will be anxious to carry out, shows clearly enough for any man that this institution is on the threshold of a new day.

To the patients, miserable inmates under the old regime of indifference, the most exciting recommendations made by the Governor will be those which concern food. By now the ward-ward grapevine is probably hot with the report that relief is in sight from the unrelenting deprivation of food, a process calculated to deprive the tenager of succulence. There is going to be some baking and roasting done, and the preparation, handling and serving of food will be by hired help, among whom some standard of physical cleanliness may be assured, rather than the demerit.

There is going to be, if the administration of the hospital has not already abandoned it, a cessation of the inexcusable practice of solitary confinement as a disciplinary measure, often at the hands of nursing attendants, a practice not recorded made. The patients are going to get outdoors often; and the Governor's recommendation that benches be provided for them to sit on, instead of wandering aimlessly around, shows the

detailed and concentrated consideration he has given to their comfort.

There is going to be, insofar as it is possible with the inadequate staff that Legislature will have to enlarge, more effort to cure instead of simply to incarcerate. Occupational therapy is recommended, and full case histories of patients. And the State is coming to the aid of the State, which is a way of saying that the Home Economics Department of the Woman's College will be called in as a consultant of dietetics at the hospital, and that the Department of Agriculture and State College's Experiment & Extension Service will be asked to make a study of soil conditions and farming possibilities, so that more food may be raised and the menu of sow bosom and beans varied with green vegetables; and the dairy herd is to be increased so that the patients may even have milk. Milk, mind you, whole milk at that!

It will be a great day at Morganton, messes, this which has been signaled by the Governor's forceful appearance there. And he has covered his subject. Three weeks ago *The News*, reviewing the report of the board which investigated Morganton and trying to determine what had to await the action of the Legislature and what could be done now, compiled a list of eight specific reforms which might be initiated at once. In his own weightier recommendations the Governor has incorporated all but a minor one of those suggestions, and has added to them with characteristic thoroughness and vigor. Yes, sir, that new day at Morganton has been ushered in. The forgotten have been remembered.

Dog Fight

Truman Report Would Puzzle Dwindling Jap Air Force

American fighting planes, though they roar gloriously through the battle communique, are taking a fierce licking at home. Latest adversary who has framed them in his sights is Missouri's straight-shooting Senator Harry Truman, the investigating man. His committee, after a study of U. S. air power as it behaves in actual combat, has made a burning report of our inferiority to the enemy. Truman's record as a fact-digger demands that authorities give him an ear, and because his report is delivered in the midst of a criticism of our military (as Major de Seversky's *Victory Through Air Power*), the matter becomes a vital one. There remains some doubt, however, that civilian investigators, even Senators, see all and know all.

There was, for instance, on the same day that Truman reported, a thrilling story of Marine and Army action in the skies over the Solomons. Though Truman's committee sees the Jap Zero as a vastly superior plane to most of our own, eleven of them were shot down that day in action by two twin-engine and five single-engine Jap bombers. Marine losses were two planes shot down, one missing. The Army lost no planes, no pilots.

Those stories have been coming home in interesting numbers. American fighters may be used superior to run down their record, but they are certainly exacting an amazing toll of enemy aircraft. Truman criticizes U. S. fighters because they sacrifice maneuverability for fire power and armor, but he takes no cognizance of the fact that a Zero, once it crosses U. S. sights, usually flies apart in the air.

Truman's men concentrated on blasting one type of Navy plane which they called "a joke". Presumably they meant the slow-poke Catalina flying boats which were sent to bomb the Japs in the early days of their Aleutian occupation. Those planes, naturally, are no fit adversary for any fighter, were built years ago for patrol, and when trouble came they were all the Navy's.

Our start may have been inauspicious, both with Catalinas and the early-model P-40's, but there is nothing in the reports of actual fighting to indicate that the U. S. is being left behind. Truman's bird should be, must be, followed up, but if the present rate of aerial destruction is maintained the Jap air force might well be nullified by the time the Senate committee is

New Chief

The Police Department Gets a Capable Head

The Currie Administration has made, in the selection of Walter F. Anderson of Winston-Salem as chief of this city's police department, what we have every reason to believe will be an enduring contribution to the welfare of the people of Charlotte. Those who are in position to judge a police chief—Albert Coates of the Institution of Government at Chapel Hill, the FBI and others—have always freely expressed the opinion that Anderson was one of the best in the business. His selection commands itself on all grounds, not least being that upon which the minority Councilmen—the so-called blocks of Granite—are said to oppose it.

He comes from outside the department, and that is much in his favor, yet he is not what you might call a stranger. He speaks the Tar Heel lingo, will get along with his men. And does he have a job to do!

He steps into a hot spot in a city which has acquired the name of Murder Capital of the nation. He takes charge of a department which has long been a loose end. He assumes responsibility for one agency of law-enforcement in a place where the law's an easy mark. And he takes the job with what appears to be the endorsement of only seven men on an eleven-man Council.

We like the new chief, and we hope to speak for him what he will very likely earn for himself in short order—the full support and co-operation of all good citizens.

"No," said the shipbuilding wizard, to the porter the Washington barber shop, "I've been brushed off."

Though without the credentials to prove it, millions of Americans were born, as far as they know.

There's one on every bus, who reads just enough to keep himself informed.

Asking "whatever became of the stock market?" he asks, and he may be necessary to offer a reward.

If worse comes to worst, the great beef scarcely could be made up into one

This Is How I "Keep 'Em Rolling"

—By Herblock



Platform Of The People

Louisiana Confuses Herself

Editors, The News:

A recent sojourn in Louisiana left this writer under the impression that it is still entitled to be classed as the land of a thousand political hates. Perhaps in no other state is this condition quite so applicable. The present state regime appears to be headed by a man disposed to do the best within his power for the state as a whole, and has done some good work; but a militant opposition fights hard to prevent him from getting credit for anything beneficial to the public.

This opposition is regarded by some as the Huey Long organization, and is referred to as such by others, who know better. The so-called successors of Huey Long went into line in having him murdered, but ex-Governor Leche got himself elected by calling himself a 252-pound Huey Long man. He was just the opposite in all his actions, as the records show.

Earl Long, the antithesis of his brother Huey, would have been elected over the incumbent but for the opposition of James A. Noe, who was Huey's friend in life and in death. The late prosecution of Noe for alleged violation of Federal law was nothing but an effort to smear the memory of Huey Long. He was found not guilty.

Huey Long, almost single-handed, made possible the greatest bridge that spans the "father of waters," yet no New Orleans newspaper will refer to it as the Huey Long bridge, although they know that without

him it wouldn't be there today, Louisiana is a great state, and deserves better things than its political factions permit.

—LOUIS PHILLIPS
Bear Creek, N. C.

Britain Still Eres On Indian Problem

Editors, The News:

In spite of all that has been said and written England is making a grave mistake by not granting India her freedom—a mistake similar to the one that cost her Burma, Malaya, and all the rest of her Far Eastern empire.

She is making an enemy out of a people that would be our ally, she is destroying the faith of her own allies everywhere who will feel that they are being used, and she is giving a powerful propaganda weapon to her foes who will most certainly make the most of it. Fighting as she is for the principles of Democracy, she can ill afford not to practice them.

She claims that a free India would hamper her free efforts, but a free India fighting for her own rights would hamper her as much as a subjected India fighting for the Japanese. She should have learned that lesson in Burma. Her reluctance to part with vast possessions and certain privileges and practices which have been hers for centuries may cost the lives of many Allied soldiers. I speak not against England, but for the principles for which we all fight.

—TOMMY MENFAL
McColl, S. C.

Labor Offers Its Thanks

Editors, The News:

I want to congratulate you upon the fine job you did in your Labor Day paper in compliment to both

management and labor for the excellent work which is being done in this state by these soldiers of production in our war effort. I am convinced that the results of your advertising will be far-reaching and will have a splendid effect upon the morale of our workers.

I sincerely appreciate the co-operation which we always receive from your excellent paper.

—FORREST H. SHIFFORD,
Commissioner of Labor,
Raleigh.

And So Does OPA Authority

Editors, The News:

I am writing to thank you for the very great assistance which you rendered the Charlotte Fight Inflation Campaign. We were most honored to have you give such support to this undertaking. We could not have had any greater support from any city than that which was given by the leaders of Charlotte.

We feel that you gain for your fine co-operation.

OSCAR R. STRAUSS JR.,
Regional Administrator, OPA,
Atlanta, Ga.

Greenville Residents Want Protection

Editors, The News:

We, the Negro citizens of the Greenville section of Charlotte, are asking the City Council for police protection from the ground gambling and these outlawed whiskey houses don't have any regard for the lives of colored men. We are having a great deal of trouble with Negroes from other sections of Charlotte.

Every week-end it is very bad for anybody to be out. We hope the City Council will look into the matter at once. Our church members turn out about 40 per cent less than they have been.

We feel that we could get some police protection to stay in the Greenville section it would be better. We have more officers have done good in other parts of the city and we are sure they can do some good in the Greenville section.

THE REV. J. C. SMITH,
Charlotte.

Visitin' Round

Ye Complain Reporter
(North Wilkesboro Hustler)

Mr. Ed Stanley, whose home is at the end of Wilkesboro, former residence of the late Wilkes register of deeds—Bob Edwards—was setting up a new shipment of a machine Saturday at noon unloaded from a freight car which was not a new but overhauled-repaired ripaw, he said, when asked if such a machine were not "rationed" nowadays?

Heh, Heh—We Don't Get It
(Mission Item)

Blanky News & Press
I met a friend Saturday. He says I'm glad to see you. How are you getting along? I'm all right, I asked him what he had to tell me. His answer—he had nothing but a bad name and that was given to him.

Variation From The
Common Cat & Dogs
Jonas Ridge Item,
Morganton News-Herald
We are having plenty of rain

Draft Prospectus

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON

PUBLISHED statements make it clear that we are planning to raise an army of eight to ten million men by the end of next year. Judging by those statements we must be about halfway there now.

Three main problems are now faced by Selective Service and manpower officials. One is the lowering of the draft age to eighteen years. There is no suspension of recruiting, and the third is maintenance of working forces in war production plants.

Only important reason advanced against Selective Service Committee will begin hearings on proposed legislation to lower the draft age to eighteen. This was introduced by Representative Wadsworth in the House and by Senator Gurney in the Senate. There has been hesitation in Congress about taking such action. The Administration officials have the right to request for action. Mr. Roosevelt said this week he did not think it would be necessary to draft eighteen- and nineteen-year-old youths until the first of the year.

War Department and Selective Service officials are generally in favor of legislation, and increasingly so as the draft reaches into married men.

However, those in closest touch with Selective Service problems believe many are oversteering the number of men they can be obtained by lowering the draft age. Usual estimates are that 2,500,000 men would be brought in. Officials point out that many of these youngsters already have enlisted. Others would be rejected for physical Judge believe we ought not count on more than 1,600,000 sure. In other words, although lowering the draft age will help, it will not remove the necessity of taking married men, or of taking many industrial employees previously deferred.

Suspension of recruiting is under consideration. Mr. Roosevelt says, Selective Service officials strongly advocate an end of recruiting, some in the Manpower Commission advocate it. The main opposition has come from the Navy. The issue is being forced to a head now. Only important reason advanced against Selective Service officials for ending recruiting is that until this is done, control of industrial manpower will be impossible. They say that shipyards and other war factories are losing as many men through recruiting as through Selective Service. Hysterical waves of enlisting have occurred in some places. When some deferred employees are taken by draft boards, their fellow workers make a break to enlist. At one navy yard in the South, 100 men were deferred in large numbers on the plea of the Navy that they were essential. A few days later a Navy recruiting crew appeared and many of the men enlisted.

It may seem to be lacking in appreciation of the spirit of patriotism, but nothing of course could be further from the minds of Selective Service officials. They are charged with handling hundreds of thousands of men, without drawing them away from their work with a minimum of disruption to war production. They are trying to weigh where a man is most needed, in the Army or at his job. Recruiting cases discontinue, and the manpower are now at the point where it must be used carefully to best advantage.

The third problem, maintenance of working force in war production plants, is heading to the point where the Government may have to force men to stay on the job and not drift to other employment. The Manpower Commission already has issued orders to that effect covering lumbering and non-ferrous mining in twelve Western states. There is hesitation about adopting a nation-wide policy of that kind.

But officials are facing the fact that it may have to come, as it did in England. They are less certain as to when. In any event, they are taking a step which would be effective until the next step, for many men, restricted against changing to better-paying jobs, would go into the service.

Crying Need Use For Experts

By Dorothy Thompson

A MONTH ago the President appointed three distinguished and thoughtful men to investigate a problem which has been acute ever since the attack on Pearl Harbor. At that moment, any child in a school would be threatened, and the media steps should be taken to find substitutes for grade rubber. But not until Aug. 6 was that done which should have been done after the war; the appointment of an absolutely disinterested commission to investigate the situation and bring in recommendations.

This column has recommended for some years that we take advantage of British precedent and get up equivalents of the Royal Commission. Royal Commissions are temporary bodies of persons, selected without political considerations, purely on the ground of superior technical abilities. They are not beholden to the Government which is not their employer. They have no power to enforce their recommendations. They are selected from the disinterested.

Therefore, they have independent judgment.

The President's committee—Mr. Baruch and Professors Compton and Conant—is an almost exact equivalent of a Royal Commission. None of these men is in the least interested in future political office, and they are entirely uninterested in which agency of Government should handle a gigantic new enterprise.

Professors Compton and Conant are completely competent in the field of chemical science, and have unlimited access to all technical knowledge. They are also presidents of great educational institutions, and therefore organizers, as well as professors. Bernard Baruch is one of the great executives of this nation, and a man whose passion for winning the war takes precedence over everything else in his life.

Therefore, and for the first time, we have that which is the very life and soul of efficient democratic government: a disinterested and competent view.

If we had had such a National Commission one and a half years ago, when the die was cast on the question of the automobile industry, we might have won the war this year.

Because of their sensational reports and the natural reaction they aroused among parents of the boys in the camps, the Secretary of War has taken pains to get the facts about drinking habits in the Army camps. And he has lately issued a statement on the matter, saying that the War Department's policy is to have no bars, and to have no liquor in the hands of national youth.

Persons who have visited any of the camps or otherwise become familiar with the military situation in these Army centers will believe that Secretary Blumson's statement is a gross distortion of camp life is not one conducive to heavy passions among the youth in training.

In like manner, wild stories about social vice around the camps moved the Subcommittee of the United States a few weeks ago to say that venereal disease is steadily declining in the Army. In the first five months of 1942, he continued, there were 100,000 cases, the lowest in the Army's history. The two officials' statements ought to

Side Glances



Today's Bible Thought

We know little of the material universe, we should not assume that we know all about spiritual things: *Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare if thou hast understanding—Job 38:4.*

Labor Offers Its Thanks

Editors, The News:

I want to congratulate you upon the fine job you did in your Labor Day paper in compliment to both

Side Glances

"I'd marry the foreman and quit the job if it wasn't for the war—only I don't like the idea of having a

Side Glances

"No," said the shipbuilding wizard, to the porter the Washington barber shop, "I've been brushed off."