

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1943

## Open Treason Tax Strikers Should Be Taught The Lessons of World War

We assume that the attitude shown by the threatening tax-strikers in the Cleveland area is not typical of the country as a whole; at least that is our hope. For the first reaction to the refusal of war workers to pay taxes in the time of affliction is rarely violent. Workers are said to have dared the Government to "come and get 'em." It is our hope that it will go "em, and deal with them harshly.

Aware of the fact that a great deal of stalling on income tax payment has been brought about by the Rural Plan talk in Congress, we still insist that Americans are at fault for not having made provision for taxes they knew were coming. And those who are enjoying the fruits of wartime Laboring and the highest salaries of their life should be considered as a special class of traitors to their country when they refuse to make payment.

Obviously, millions of working men will be expected to pay taxes for the first time this year. That is no reason for attempting to dodge the responsibility. To out any way of thinking, a man working in Cleveland's war plants, or anywhere else in a busy industry, should be the first to recognize his obligation. Chances are that he's never before paid taxes, that he's making more money than he ever made, and that he's safe from combat service because of his job. When he protests, as thousands are said to be doing in Cleveland, we're for a counter-attack, and we don't care how stiff the penalty.

There are problems stop problems to be solved by Monday. There are thousands over the country who will be unable to meet tax payments, and they won't protest; they simply won't have the money—and most of them will be unable to borrow for the time being under Government regulations. We are facing the possibility of wholesale default, and part of the blame must rest upon the Government itself for stalling on current-payment plans. But those workers who defy Uncle Sam should be quickly set aright. The old slogan still goes, work or fight—and if the largest class of war profiteers doesn't want to pay, let it see the war from the front lines. They need a good view of the big show.

## J. P. Morgan His Passing Brings An End To A Golden American Age

When the end came for J. P. Morgan, there came an end to an age of American life, a great, gaudy, golden age. In effect, however, it had long been dead, and the head of the House of Morgan was a ghost from the past, walking in a world he could neither fathom nor appreciate. He and the giant banking house he had built were a remnant of an empire, to the building of great fortunes, unrestricted. He was not accustomed to the formalities of corporation life, or to the hot breath of Government representatives, blowing down his neck.

The House of Morgan became perhaps the best-known of all American business enterprises during the lifetime of the second J. P. Morgan. It was no philanthropic institution, but a creature of great wealth. In the same way, it was a builder on a heroic scale. It had helped America up by its boot straps, from a frontier economy to the industrial leader of the world, and Morgan's part was of great importance to the big and little people of the country. He made money like Croesus, to be sure, but at the touch of his considerable financial genius, whole sections of the country blossomed in gold.

In operations covering more than a century, the House of Morgan has concentrated on economic development, reconstruction, the gold market, railroad building, U. S. Steel, halting the panic of 1907. Following such a career, it is quiet, retiring second J. P. Morgan kept the faith. Though the days of the old wolves of big business were gone, he remained an individual, and the House of Morgan remained a name. As the century passed, certainly brings near its end the parade of the great captains of industry who have wielded power almost of life and death, over millions. They are being swayed, and are in the new day of the little man.

Behind him, J. P. Morgan left few recorded remarks or anecdotes. One, which he spoke in 1918, testifying before the Industrial Relations Commission,

revealed clearly his views upon mankind and his money. Asked if \$10 a week was enough for an International Harvester longshoreman to earn, he replied: "I do not know, sir. If that is all he can get and he takes it, I should say it was enough." He retained that outlook to the last, when his passing, even in the midst of a great war, was enough to start every American vire to chattering in the early morning hours.

## Zero Hour Pressure for Retirement System Felt at City Hall

Charlotte's City Government has reached the point of recognizing a major problem. The pressure, perhaps, has become so great in the behalf of setting up a retirement system for City employees that action is soon forthcoming. It is possible that the City Council will feel the desire of the people so strongly that the great step will be taken—and it will be a great step, from every angle.

The installation of such a system will represent a big initial outlay of funds; but costs will decrease with the passing years as employees and City pay scale percentages rise. It has not been thought that the size of the financial obligation involved might prevent immediate acceptance of the idea, but the reorganization of the Police Department by Chief Anderson, bringing to public attention the problems of aged officers, now in service, raised up the entire problem.

The suggested carry-over plan of a limited service division, admittedly an unsound method of achieving temporary relief, may yet forestall the acceptance of the larger responsibility assumed by the City, but now for later, the big system must be installed in the interest of economy, efficiency and security.

Even if, as more than one Councilman has suggested, the temporary plan be held until 1945, the City should permit the elderly officers to be cut to \$125 monthly. The cost of maintaining their present salaries would be very little larger, and the base of their retirement pay for the remainder of their lives would be increased. If that is to be action at all, we urge City Council to consider adoption of a complete retirement system for all City employees. If not now, then as soon as possible.

## A New Life Madame Chiang Gives U. S. Girls a Boost for Freedom

However amazing it must seem to those who can remember back to other years when a Chinaman was a Chinik, it must be recorded that Madame Chiang Kai-Shek has stood America on her ear as she has seldom been stood. Her appeal, of course, was sure-fired; and of the millions who are the result of interest in her own countrymen, for the Flying Tigers had dramatized the China story for the American public. But, on her own talents, the little lady made her way. Somehow, it didn't occur to Americans to wonder if this charming little woman enjoyed the same public reaction back home that Mrs. Roosevelt has generated here. She smiled, and American smiled back.

We're inclined to suspect, that her appearances here will do more for cementing long-term friendship with China than for rushing bombers across the Pacific. Our hunch is that the United Nations Command will get its peace to China, when the experts say. In one blow, an idea and an ideal were cooled off. But that, we agree, is beside the point. The lady made some important contributions to our culture in a few short days.

Among the most important, we submit, was her appearance on the Wellesley campus in a pair of slacks. Such was her hold on the situation that the college ban against such attire for females was quietly lifted. For the experts say. In one blow, an idea and an ideal were cooled off. But that, we agree, is beside the point. The lady made some important contributions to our culture in a few short days.

Perhaps it's altogether a matter of women and their parents. It seemed unbecoming for young American girls at college to wear slacks; but Madame, flower of a race whose women have worn slacks for unforgetting generations while the men wore gowns, made it seem proper in a moment. Henceforth, it's more twitch and less twitch. We've still to rather courage to decide whether we're happy or sad.

# City Council Has A Headache By Dick Young

THE tragedy of old age, especially old age that slips upon one without adequate security, has now been forcefully brought to the City Council's attention. Police Chief Anderson's reorganization, which has seriously affected five of the department's older officers and shunted them into minor roles, has served to emphasize the need for retirement of aged employees and has again revived the discussion for need of a blanket retirement system for all municipal employees.

Time and time again the need for such old age protection has been pointed out here but the months have slipped away into years and nothing has ever been done about it. But now the problem is squarely up to the Council and this is now a very personal problem. The five police officers affected are very persons and because of a state-wide retirement system does not become operative until July 1, 1945, they must hang on somehow until they can retire with honor and with security.

But because the City Government has not seen fit to establish a retirement fund for municipal workers, who are not included in the national social security program, these five men should not be penalized for the shortcomings of the past. The proposal of Chief Anderson to place these officers on a qualified for the light duties they will be called upon to perform is a generous one. Of course, the men are reluctant to accept a reduction in salary. They feel they are still capable of performing full duty (most old people do have that feeling).

But it must be admitted that men 55 to 70 years of age are not as vigorous and active as they once were. Their duties of necessity must be limited and that limited duty should not merit the same salary as is paid younger and more active officers. It wouldn't be right and fair to the others. Yet it wouldn't be right and fair to cut these old men off without some compensation.

## Certainly Making It Tough For Himself —By Dorman Smith



## Russian Relations Admiral In A Vacuum

By Samuel Crafton

NEW YORK  
WHAT Russia wants from us is a second front. So long as we do not deliver a second front, we are going to have much closer relations with Russia. Those relations depend, only incidentally, on what Ambassador Standley says in Moscow. If we deliver a second front, Ambassador Standley can't do a groovy bear in Moscow, and it will not greatly matter.

If we do not deliver a second front, Standley can do as he pleases, he can wear a picture of Stalin in his pocket, and our relations with Russia will not be substantially improved. I doubt whether Russia is nearly as interested as we are in the question of whether we recall Standley or do not recall him. I doubt if she cares greatly whether we send a more amiable ambassador to Moscow, or a less amiable one. She wants us to send troops into Europe.

In the great debate over whether Standley should be recalled or should stay, it is alleged that his bias as Russia for supposedly not telling her own people about the extent of Lend-Lease aid will create distrust and encourage the Axis.

But it is the absence of coalition warfare which really encourages the Axis. If we establish a second front, the Axis cannot possibly be encouraged by anything any ambassador can possibly say in Moscow. Nor will the Axis be greatly discouraged, or Russia greatly encouraged, even if we find the most polite of verbal forms for covering over the absence of coalition warfare, even if we send the nicest American there is to Moscow.

Standley is not the problem. Policy is the problem. And therefore sending someone to replace Standley will not solve the problem. The problem is to establish true coalition warfare, an offensive in the West to match Russia's offensive in the East. Just as the Standley incident could not possibly have occurred were such an offensive taking place, so similar incidents can perhaps be avoided so long as that offensive does not take place.

## Quote, Unquote

THE preservation of our system of liberal education during the war will make an enormous difference in the moral and human tone of our society in the future, of the very atmosphere in which the peace is made and of all civilization after the war.

—Wendell Willkie

Liberty has its origin in the sense that men must be able to worship God as their own deity. It is the freedom of the individual from the herd of political liberty or the source of the claim of man to form the basis of society.

—Bishop of Berlin

The onward march of civilization ordains that this, the greatest of all nations, must assume a leadership in the world of tomorrow.

The question of what to do about these five policemen has been referred to the Council police-fire committee, which is expected to have a report by next Wednesday. One thing the committee might keep in mind is that the interim protection, which Chief Anderson has asked for them, will be the last thing the City Government will have to do for them. On July 1, 1945 they will be retired and the obligation for their compensation will pass to the North Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Retirement Fund. The City's obligation will then cease. But for the short time remaining, they must be protected.

And another thing this current problem emphasizes is the necessity for police officers to provide for their old age. Under the State retirement plan, officers contribute 4 per cent of their salary to the fund, which is further benefited by an assessment of \$2 in each case, this being added to the cost of the fund. The 111 in the Charlotte Police Department today only 28 have joined the system. This means that nearly two-thirds of the members of the department have made no provision for their old age and some time in the future when they reach the age of limited usefulness they need not expect concessions from the public.

If they are not willing to help themselves by contributing part of their salary for old age security and are thus not willing to help themselves, then they need not expect any help from the public. Those officers who have not joined should well be warned by the present situation and let not a day pass without aligning themselves with this protective agency.

## Change Horses By Raymond Kipper

WASHINGTON  
WE have nothing to gain and much to lose by allowing our relations with Soviet Russia to go down the hill as they have been going recently. Ambassador Standley obviously has ended his usefulness at Moscow. It would not be surprising to see him brought home at an early date. That is the expectation.

Some other things need to be done also. We need to stop this talk which however well-meant, only foments mutual suspicion between us. Vice-President Wallace made his unfortunate reference to the danger of a double-cross with good intentions. But such a thing, instead of removing suspicion, only breeds it.

We need some better contacts with Russia at once. When Joseph E. Davies was on his mission to Moscow, we had probably the best relations between the two Governments that have existed at any time since we recognized the Soviet regime in 1933. Davies was a capitalist, and made no effort to conceal his wealth. He lived like a plutocrat at Moscow. And the Russians liked it. They never have cared for his industrialists. They admire big American industry more than anything else.

They liked Willkie and treated him like a hero. They got on famously with General Patrick Hurley, a conservative, a wealthy Hoover Republican who wasn't a Communist but who had crossed into battles and their farewell salute to him was, "see you in Berlin."

Why do we allow such talent to go to waste? Why do we keep in Moscow someone that the Soviet Government regards with indifference? Why do we refuse them? The Russians have demonstrated that they like good American capitalists like Willkie, Pat Hurley and Joe Davies. Why can't we take a tip and use them some more right now? Can't we get the idea in America that you don't have to love Communism to be in favor of helping Russia? There are no stronger advocates of aid to Russia in the way than these capitalists I have mentioned. They are realistic in the way that Stalin is realistic. Why do some of our people try to sell aid to Russia on the questionable argument that Communism is changing in Russia, and that the Russians like it. There is freedom of religion in Russia, and in short that Russian Communism is practically just the same as the American way?

Our people don't believe that kind of propaganda. They don't like Communism and resent any propaganda effort abroad or at home to sell it to them with sugar coating. Why can't our Government somehow, Elmer Davis with his 4,000 employees and his \$100 million features of Communism. But Joe Churchill said that it isn't a matter of helping an ally that is fighting to smash the same enemy that is helping us to fight.

Churchill and Stalin don't get along. Uncle Joe is quite bitter toward Churchill. Yet the relations between Great Britain and Russia are very much better than ours with Russia. It is the silver that Churchill the British people are on a realistic and not a sentimental basis toward Russia.

In less than 24 hours after Germany attacked Russia in June of 1941, Churchill told his people what he felt. Churchill said he had fought Communism for 23 years and took back nothing that he had said. He said Nazism was indistinguishable from Communism. He said that the British people are on a realistic and not a sentimental basis toward Russia.

## Platform Of The People African Emulsion

Editors, The News:  
As every druggist knows, in order to mix water with an oil, it is first necessary to make a primary emulsion. This is done by dissolving a small amount of gum in sufficient water and then very carefully adding a little oil—some times drop by drop—with constant stirring. The result is a mixture. This part of the process requires skillful manipulation. However, once this primary emulsion is formed, the remainder of the oil and water, and sometimes other ingredients, can be added in relatively large quantities and a homogenous mixture of the whole is accomplished without special care.

It is what the great apothecaries are doing in North Africa. They have made primary emulsion by mixing a small amount of democracy and some gold with Fascism. Then they have added to the primary emulsion in ever increasing amounts so that by the time we subdue the Nazis the emulsion will consist primarily of Fascism and a very small amount of democracy plus a considerable amount of American gold. Even some Marxism may be added after it has been made indistinguishable from Fascism by filtering off the Hitlerites.

Of course, nobody knows just how the final emulsion will be. Attempt will be made to restore all the monarchies. Most, if not all, the deposed monarchs will resume their thrones, without exception, they will "get religion," or renew their vows of virginity, and be appropriately recognized and blessed by the Church. In reality, these deposed monarchs will only be puppets. They will be merely a decorative camouflage for a democracy.

Should the emulsion show signs of breaking down, and the equilibrium be disturbed, it will be restored by the addition of liberal amounts of American gold. It may be necessary to apply heat. This would be done by

Let us not worry lest the makers of the emulsion be restrained by a squamousness, caused by attention to such unscientific considerations. The statement of battle and the exuberance of victory will make us less suspicious. With the Hitlerites defeated, the formation of the democracy will be completed and justified. And having confessed with Fascism, all fear of Fascism will be removed.

Cheer up, dependent Democrats! Maybe the religion that Fascism "gets" will consist of wisdom and benevolence. So equipped, there will be no need for democracy.

LEWIS AYER SMITH, Charlotte



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