

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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W. C. Dowd, 1865-1927

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The Old Name

North Carolina Does Not Respond Now as in History

There were days when Carolina was a fighting name, a proud fighting name. Under that name the new American foster sons fought their way to the fall line of the rivers, and made a great agricultural economy in the Eastern lowlands. Under that name, still proud in its own fight, way through desolated North and South, by sister colonies in finer valment, men and women fought their way West into the hills, and from there fought both Westward and Eastward, for breathing space and for freedom.

In the years of the birth of the republic, Carolina men fought the first engagement, shed the first blood, wrote the first Declaration of Independence. Those are the things of legend, and there are more in the history books. The Carolinians who came to be known as Tar Heels carried proud banners into the Civil War—and though the last state to join the rebellion, created the watchword of "First at Bull Run, Last at Appomattoh." Now, it was still a proud fighting name, North Carolina.

It has been so through the years. First through the Hindenburg Line was the 19th Infantry of the 30th Division—an outfit from North Carolina. Back home, where the loudest bores for years had been of pure "Anglo-Saxon stock," men and women could shout that sons of Carolina had taken the lead in making the world safe for democracy—and back home in Carolina they thought of Democracy as North Carolina, styled Democracy, complete with unfettered freedom.

When the second World War fell upon Americans, it was already said that the militia, gallant fighting units, was taking the lead in North Carolina, too, this was said to be true. The volunteers were so many that the draft would find few men left; there were Carolina generals, all hard-fighting leaders. But when the time came for the Carolina, North Carolina had failed. By a survey reported to the nation at large, the state stood very near the bottom of the list in voluntary enlistments by population. It became known that North Carolina's citizens were casting their votes at the rate of 2,200 every day—estimated as between 30 and 40 per cent of the total sales in the state. And in Charlotte, a campaign to recruit a WAAC platoon was a failure.

The people of North Carolina had changed, and did not answer as once they had. In the times when there was blood and gunsmoke between neighbors at Moore's Creek, or the crackle of gunfire on King's Mountain, or ordered massacre of Bedocasts at Guilford Court House, or when the largest body of troops was moving North to meet the Yankees, or when the hoarse voice of artillery sounded in the German ruin, the younger generation ago in France. Something, perhaps, has happened to the people. Perhaps they have grown accustomed to North Carolina's standing near the bottom in an endless string of national statistics, and have lost the good old name of other days. Whatever and however, there is an under-production of the precious commodity, patriotism, in the State. Somehow, somewhere, the grand fighting name has lost its ring.

The Offensive

New Signs of Coming Blows Are To Be Read in All Lands

On all sides there are new signs that a great new offensive against Europe is to be undertaken this Summer by the United Nations. Discussion by dispatch from Somewhere-In-Europe calls to mind the possibility of an Allied push through the Balkans, Turkey coming in the conflict by declaring war against Bulgaria. There were reports that German reinforcements have poured into Bulgaria, taking over the Black Sea defenses, and that the Greek valleys are being fortified by Bulgarian labor under Nazi supervision.

There is the report that the Germans have taken over the Italian Navy. There is the conjecture that the Axis troops in Tunisia will have fled within 60 days, that the assault upon Italy will have developed by mid-Summer, and that Mussolini's unhappy people will be out of the war by Fall. There is also the recent British announcement that a 15-mile strip of eastern English coast had been declared a military reservation for offensive purposes. And there is the Russian declaration that the submarine attack will begin to be conducted by efficient war vessels—and success in that

campaign may presumably come about mid-Summer.

The total of the signs is that a grand-scale offensive plan is being carried forward rapidly, and that its launching will bring forth the greatest offensive since the German attack by sea. This coming offensive is to be a greater blow than the knocking out of Italy, and is likely to combine savage thrusts at the enemy through the Balkans, through Southern Europe, and over the lowlands and down from the North. It will be the end for the Third Reich, and it is coming.

Attached

Negro Press Shows Again Its Yen for a Rebellion

We feel obliged to take note of a counter attack launched upon The News by a contemporary in the Midwest, The Chicago Defender, a member of the Negro press recently blasted by race leader, Dr. Warren Brown. Our own acquaintance with the Negro press has been limited to a few sensation-loving Eastern journals, but our first look at The Defender confirms our belief that the Negro's press as a whole is not serving us well, that it screams where it should be speaking softly. We quote from its editorial:

The Charlotte News of Charlotte, N. C.—one of the most reactionary papers in the country—has had the temerity to accuse the Chicago Defender of being "wild" and "irresponsible." This accusation stemmed from the Defender's caustic rebuke of Dr. Warren Brown for his disingenuous article in the Saturday Review of Literature on the Negro press.

Although the Defender's "bandanna campaign" against Dr. Brown stirred the editors of the Charlotte News to the point of vomiting in the mouth, it should not be considered as the real cause of the Southern gent's wrath. Dr. Brown's thesis provided the reactionary Southern papers the opportunity of continuing long sought to smear militant Negro papers. Feeling had been mounting against Negro leadership ever since the issuance of the Executive Order 9802 prohibiting racial discrimination in defense industries.

When the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee with its biracial composition investigated the employment policy of the major industrial plants in Birmingham, Ala., last Spring, the South became enraged. Cheap Southern politicians and bigoted editors deliberately twisted the intent of the committee's investigation into an attempt to force social equality on Dixie's blue blood society.

This, then, is the voice the Negro hears, and to which, the Irate Defender editor doubtless maintains, he listens, hoping for enlightenment and a lessening of his burdens. This minority, truly American, must not be allowed to listen now or ever to the wild voices; it must not be led into a kind of revolt for greater gains, at once. The Chicago paper went all the way, in the same editorial:

"The campaign against Warren Brown," the Charlotte News cried out, "substantiated our belief that the time for consideration of wide gains by Negroes or any other group is not now." Those of us who are not afflicted with an inordinately short memory will recall that American Negroes were told during the first World War precisely what the editors of the Charlotte News are saying today. With the roscate promise of better days ahead, Negro press and Negro leaders in the main swallowed this locus-pocus and remained inarticulate in 1917-18. The result was Negroes who had fought and died in Europe, who had gone to the front in hell for the sake of democracy, came home to face another hell: the hell of segregation, discrimination and lynching.

We will not be fooled by flimsy promises anymore. We have grown a bit wiser. The Charlotte News editorial, the tenor of which holds up well the proud tradition of yellow journalism, does not mean to be a threat to the Negro people. We, however, warn Southern bourgeois and their ilk that the American Negro is no longer content to be a supplicant at the foot of the white man's demand for rights. And, no forces in hell can keep him from insisting that requisite democratic justice be extended to him now and henceforth. That is the call for disaster, the command for chaos.

It May Move The World

Our Victory In Southern Tunisia

By Dorothy Thompson

WASHINGTON The fall of the Mareth Line before the British Eighth Army adds another confirmation to one of the main lessons of this war, namely that modern wars are won by armies and not by fortifications. This was demonstrated at the Mannerheim Line in Finland, by the Russians; by the Germans at the Maginot Line; by the Germans in the Russian frontier fortifications; and now by the British at the Mareth Line.

On a much smaller scale the taking of the Mareth Line repeated the German maneuver in France. For the Germans made a breach in the line at one point and a flanking movement behind the line, so rendering useless the long prepared fortification system. The British took the Mareth Line in the same way. They made a breach in the coastal sector and a flanking movement from the desert.

The demonstration can have effects in the war of nerves, and it is to be hoped that we are making the most of it. For the German propaganda during the last months has been stressing the "impregnable fortress of Europe," and has put all its emphasis on defensive fortifications. That it is possible to get a foothold on the continent was demonstrated in the Dieppe raid costily as it was, and high officers who participated in it have since been quoted as saying that had their orders been to stay, they could have done so.

Rommel was defeated, in spite of his superior defensive position, by superior forces, and by enormous concentration of material on the ground and in the air. Ten days ago,

General Dietmar, the official spokesman for the German general staff, made a speech for home consumption in which he said that the German Army would not be seduced into "battles of material."

Obviously the German soldiers and people apprehend that now the weight of material is against them and that if there is competition in this field the Germans must eventually lose. So General Dietmar alluded to evasive tactics, to retreat rather than the making of too heavy sacrifices.

This is what Rommel is doing. But it is not by this method that Germany won her great victories in this war, but by the weight and power of constantly mobile offensive armies.

In some circles the North African campaign has been criticized as a strategic mistake—a minor operation in an indecisive theater of war. To that must be said that nothing involving the Mediterranean area has ever been considered indecisive by any of the great military strategists of Europe including Napoleon and General Ludendorff.

Our first objective has not been reached, but must be: namely the opening of the way through the Mediterranean to the Near East. Up to now we can only move coverly under high risks. We have managed to move reinforcements, nevertheless—for instance to the defense of Malta—but at high price. Our main way to the Near East is still around the Cape of Good Hope. The campaign in North Africa has as its chief object the opening of the short route to the Near East. This has not been reached yet.

But the second objective has been accomplished—namely to put a strain on German resources and men and force them to fight in a place where their communication lines are almost

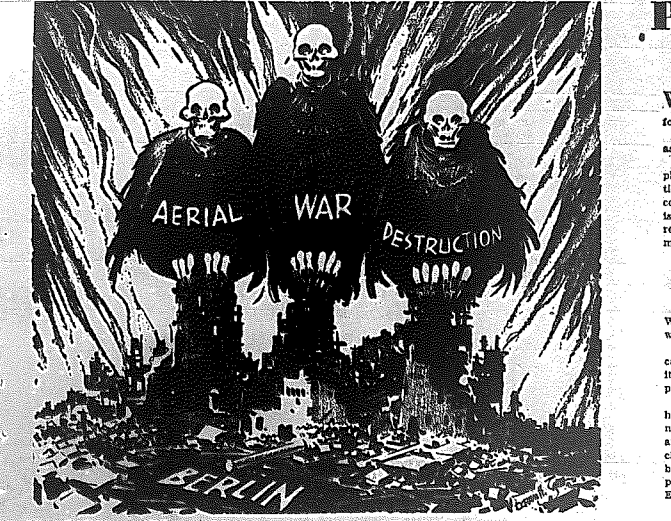
as bad as ours. The dislodging of German short-wave stations "Gustav Siegfried Eins"—if it is German—aid a few days ago that every gun and tank used now in North Africa was multiplied by the same figure and sometimes more, of guns and tanks sent to the bottom of the sea by British U-boats and American planes. This station said that if the Germans had not sent men and material to North Africa, they would have doubled their amount in Russia and Central Europe. General Manstein is saying "Tunisia will be our second Stalingrad." Certainly the German General Staff does not underestimate the importance of North Africa. General Eisenhower once predicted: "The next war will be won or lost on Africa soil."

A third objective is to season German troops against the desert. In a theater of war where temporary successes will not be decisive for the basic attacking forces, the setback that we suffered some weeks ago in Tunisia belonged to the normal training of our troops, and did not prevent us from gaining now a great victory. But had we suffered such reverses in a tentative invasion of Europe, the damage could not have been so easily made good.

The real gains indicate great progress in fighting power. Finally, the African campaign is a preface to the invasion of Europe, and makes it necessary for the German General Staff to consider an almost unlimited number of possibilities of danger from a great many angles, all of which entail dispersion of forces. In the few months of the African campaign, we have immensely improved our position, and the war plans of our generals are thus far wholly justified.

The Chickens Come Home to Roost

—By Dorman Smith



Saddest Man

Isolationist In Retreat

By Samuel Grafton

SOMETIMES you will hear from the lips of one of the same man that it is silly of us to think that we can impose our ideas on the rest of the world, and that Russia had better watch out lest she offend our ideas by taking the three Baltic states. This man the seems to write all the editorials in all the isolationist newspapers; doesn't care much what happens anywhere in the outside world. Except Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. There he cares.

Sometimes he wonders about Russia's war aims. It is about time we knew what Russia's war aims are, he says. After all, we can't fight this war and not know what Stalin intends to do. He thinks, however, that it is much too early to state American war aims. How, he asks, can you state war aims in the middle of a war? That's just gobbledey, he says. This unhappy gentleman thinks that Great Britain ought to give us permanent possession of those island bases we're leased from her.

But, he says, the great thing about America is that we have no territorial ambitions. That makes it the perfect country to be neutral in international air lines when this thing is over. You see, it's this way, one country which doesn't care what happens to the rest of the world ought to have the air transport business to everybody. It stands to reason.

Occasionally, this man tried to clear up strategic questions. He thinks that the way to win a war is to strike at the heart of the enemy. All this fighting on the outskirts doesn't get you anywhere, this island-

to-land business in the Pacific is no good. You have to hit Tokyo, you have to strike at the heart, then the link between the rest of the world.

But on the manpower question, he thinks we ought not to mobilize too many soldiers, but ought to use our manpower for producing arms and fooding the outfit. He supports the United Nations, rather than the striking arm, he says. He wants us to strike the enemy at the heart, while keeping our boys home. But if you write on manpower and strategy on separate days, it keeps the confusion down.

He thinks both main fronts are equally important, and he writes ten pieces about Japan for one about Germany. He sees things this way: Russia is trying to get us to jump into the continent of Europe before we're ready, and he is trying to get us to Berlin before we can get there.

He also thinks it is a hell of a role for us to have anything to do with Europe, anyway, above all we must not commit ourselves to having anything to do with that place after the war. Let the world clearly understand that we say but you know, he says, those Russians are going to try to see it that we don't have anything to say about Europe after the war.

That's the plan. That, of course, is precisely the same as his plan, but he doesn't like it. He thinks there is no such thing as isolation any more, and what do those Senators mean by disturbing national unity and starting a bitter debate at this time like this by saying there can be no such thing as isolation any more?

Agin The Law

Sin Goes Too Deep

By Tom P. Jimison

A FEW weeks ago a bevy of young women were tried in the Federal Court in Rockingham on a charge of sexual immorality. I confessed some surprise that a petty misdemeanor should be so dignified as to take up the time of a U. S. District Judge; three or four prosecuting attorneys, marshals, clerks and other persons to be sitting in the court of such a high tribunal of justice. Somebody explained to me that "the Government is a going" to stamp out such crime.

Perhaps it was the next day that I read where the dregs were aging to "stamp out" liquor, get rid of bootlegging, make the country free of desert, and the inherent desire to law. I had read where some people were going to "stamp out" illegal liquor by the simple expedient of establishing ABC stores.

Of course all these dear brethren had forgotten that the race is still young and that humanity learns slowly. Mankind is still in its swaddling clothes. It must have taken us millions of years to learn to walk on our hind legs. We learned that after we learned to think and our souls began to search for new horizons. We stood upright in order to see further in our search after God. And perhaps all of our inventions, sometimes used for destruction and sometimes for better, have been learned so fast in our explorations. The airplane was an attempt to pierce the soul for flights out beyond the stars where we had fancied was a fair city whose builder and maker is God.

Get-Together

Plans For Peace

By Raymond Clapper

WOODROW filters out that President Roosevelt hopes to bring the Senate and members of the House, into closer job regarding preparation for the war.

We may see some rather marked changes in practice in this respect, as the United Nations discussions become more frequent.

It would not be surprising to see the President make his habit to plan members of the Senate or House, or both, on American delegations to future United Nations conferences. There will be many such conferences. Already in mind, as President Roosevelt has indicated, is the food conference—to be followed, he hopes, by a conference on relief, another on finances, and perhaps still another on minerals, metals and oil.

He has discussed with his close friends the desirability of final Senators and Representatives who would be willing to serve in such conferences, and who would feel free to devote the time that would be required by the complicated nature of these meetings.

First of all, Mr. Roosevelt is sharply conscious of the failure of Woodrow Wilson. He recognizes that the failure of President Wilson was primarily in his relations with the Senate.

Woodrow Wilson was an exceptionally astute student of the American congressional system. He wrote one of the standard works on it in his earlier days. Yet as President he seemed to overlook completely the Senate's role in foreign relations.

Now Wilson had sufficient support in the country to have sustained him through the League of Nations controversy under normal conditions. Public pressure in the beginning was preponderantly on the side of the League. Even Senator Lodge, the Republican chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and later the bitter foe of Wilson, had advocated a League of Nations with police powers ten years before Versailles. In 1918 he voted for the League to Enforce Peace.

But Wilson ignored the Senate. He forgot to take any Senators to Paris with him. He had recognized the Republicans only by placing one diplomat on the delegation, Henry White, who had only a faint Republican Party tradition behind him. White was not an active Republican. He was not considered by Republican Senators to represent their viewpoint in any sense but rather to be only a nominal captive Republican. The appointment only incensed them, for they regarded it as a trick at their expense.

That deadly opposition of a frustrated and offended Senate, and nothing else, beat Woodrow Wilson. After a year's battle, the treaty lost by only seven votes short of the necessary two-thirds.

All of that President Roosevelt has thought about a great deal. It has been so much in his mind that he will have tired him from moving as directly as he otherwise might have moved. He has wished to use extreme care to avoid any mistake that might bring similar disaster from the Senate.

He was nervous about the Ball resolution chiefly because of the damage that would result if the Senate failed to cast a two-thirds vote for it or for some strong substitute.

In other words, it is recognized around the White House that America's future place in the world will be determined, not only by what this Government and other governments can agree upon, but by what two-thirds of the American Senate will agree to.

In practical terms, that means that the Administration must have a program that will have the support of Senators like George of Georgia, Tydings of Maryland and Vandenberg of Michigan—to suggest types that I have heard mentioned by some friends of the Administration. You have to find something that will carry them along.

The great value of the Ball-Burton-Hatch-Hill resolution is that it brings that fundamental question to a head. We had been getting the cart somewhat before the horse. What will the Senate vote for, in the way of recommendations now? That is the important thing for everybody to know, both here and abroad.

The Administration will have difficulty in getting any treaty with foreign governments unless it can show that Senate sentiment supports its general position.

Side Glances



"Let our cry be 'On To Tokyo and Yokohama!' Those Japs will surrender pretty quick when we go marching into their principal cities!"