

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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of the war. W. C. DOWD, 1865-1927

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1943

Which Year? Before Congress, Generals Can't Agree On This War

As a bit of spectacular by-play to the easting of the \$71,500,000,000 War Department bill into Congress, two of the Army's high-placed officials made a little scene. Apparently for the benefit of the long-eared world listening to the long-earred world listening to the long-earred world listening to the long-earred world...

crease expenditures by \$15,000 annually, add four employees, and leave the problems, or most of them, virtually as they were.

Paper, Paper

The Government Finds Plenty, But Denies It To The Press

Within the next few days the newspapers of the country will be forced to curtail their use of paper once more. That, we are told by the Government, is necessary, and we are given to understand that the great reduction in newsprint is brought about by a paper shortage. If that is true, then the newspapers should be happy to reduce the size of their daily editions. If it is not true, then some questions should be asked.

The General, telling the Senate Appropriations Committee that this war was in the bag, and that a way had been found to close it out soon, may well have been thinking of the favorable impression to be made upon the legislators who have been rebellious of late. Perhaps the speech was designed to make the passage of the big bill easier and more cheerful. At any rate, when a Senator hopped on the General, warning him that he might need millions of over-optimistic fellow Americans, he was backed.

Perhaps, he added as a sobering afterthought, that word "rapidly" was misleading. He amended his statement to say that we had done a wonderful job of building fighting forces and that we were now ready to deliver some telling blows. Japan was to feel the full weight of the war. And then General MacArthur took the stand. He was not so optimistic as General McNamery.

By next Spring, the Air Force boom in the U. S. will have assembled all war theaters air power superior to that of the enemy. By next year, the inference was, the big drives could be pressed and the end of the war would be in sight. That is what the world's first statements from the conference. Not at all. General McNamery, apparently caught off-guard, had agreed with the popular theory that 1943 was Hitler's last year. General Arnold, after the note of caution was sounded, moved it back to 1944.

American newspapers, we are frank to admit, can stand some cutting. We include The News itself, and frankly confess that, in many cases, the smaller papers do a better job of editing job. Newspapers, like most American individuals, have fallen into certain habits, and acquired certain luxuries. Many of these we can give up without great loss. Virtually all newspapers in this country are psychologically retail newspapers. They have been slow to cut their use of paper.

The scarcity of paper, however, as we have previously noted, has not slowed down Government agencies in its use. Half a million reams of paper are used in Washington, running scores of millions of printed pages. Much of that is absolutely necessary to the normal functioning of such a great enterprise as the Government of the United States. But there are instances, however.

The War Department, for one, gets out for its employees a weekly newspaper of 60,000 circulation. That, reports The Lynchburg (Va.) News, requires more newsprint than is now being used by each of the majority of American newspapers.

The Government, quick enough to cut down on the press of the entire nation, as easily sponsors publications which serve to less essential. It leads one to the conclusion that, for some reason, the Government is not anxious to keep the free press functioning at top speed.

Maybe it's true, as last month's rumor had it, that the little king of Italy had abdicated, and it just isn't noticeable.

Compromise

Juvenile Court Improvement Plan Leaves Problems Alone

The outlined compromise action on the overhauling of the local juvenile and domestic relations court is apparently the final result of many long months of comprehensive study of the problem. The steps which are likely to be taken, perhaps today, are not at all those recommended by an enlightened committee which worked over the court situation for an extended period. The committee's recommendations were a great deal more sweeping and probing. They have been dismissed, because a major provision was found to be illegal.

So, the Courts remain under Judge Marion Reed, whose salary will be increased somewhat, and whose task will be made easier by the proposed addition of an administrative assistant and four new staff members, or workers. Such an arrangement, it is thought, will give the Courts the manpower to cope with a situation which was rapidly getting out of hand. Perhaps it will. But it does not begin to attack the evils which beset the Courts here.

There has been too much compromise and snap judgment, and too much of a tendency to junk the findings of the investigating committee. Nothing is mentioned, now, of the crowded old place used as a place of detention; nor is it mentioned of larger, more adequate office quarters; nor is mention made of the painfully slow movement of delinquents into the state institutions. The compromise, in short, does precious little for the money it will cost City and County.

When it dawned upon the community that these Courts were in desperate need of assistance, there was no compromise. The committee appointed approached the city intelligently, made recommendations which, thoroughly studied, seemed model. Not one of them goes into effect under the compromise.

Rep. Starnes

He May Know Even Less Of OWI Than of Marlowe

Samuel Grafton, never one to hesitate, pulls the book on Representative Starnes of Alabama today. It may not be enough to spike the Congressman's mouth, but it is enough to put his charges against Christopher Marlowe in a new light. After Mr. Grafton's recollection, he makes a trifle difficult to imagine Rep. Starnes in an enlightened state, talking about something in an informed manner. One gathers that this representative, who has never given a rushing line in, headforemost, never knowing where he is, uncaring.

At least, it is publicly privileged to speculate upon the level-headedness of a man who, some years back, suspected Christopher Marlowe of being a con-temporary—temporarily hooded onto the Federal payroll somewhere. A man who is given to outbursts of that type, gripped by that kind of dismal ignorance, might just be dead wrong once in a while. It may be, now that you think of it, that Rep. Starnes was only talking when he accused Elmer Davis of being an American Goebbels.

It seems likely that he doesn't know all he should know, of Goebbels or Davis. It is at least possible that he spent even less time investigating the agency than he did in rooting out the identity of Marlowe. The mere fact that a Congressman never heard of the creator of Fraud and Managine is not the marvel of it; it is the man's willingness to spot any man of any age as a leech of the New Deal, friend of bureaucracy and enemy of the people is proof enough of it. It is not what he should be, but what he is. Starnes fell on Alabama.

A Different Land

England Before Victory

By Raymond Clapper

LONDON

LIFE on this advanced airplane base, which is what England is, has about it now a sense of security that was missing two years ago. This changed spirit is based on expectation of victory, which was not so prevalent in the Summer of 1941.

Two years ago England had just come out of one blitz, and was expecting a worse one with the longer nights of autumn. Many expected that gas would be used. When a gas here in 1941 one high official diagrammed to me exactly how he thought the Germans would attempt their invasion. If they followed the best military tactics which he could devise, he was quite certain they would hold a temporary bridgehead and that England would fight a desperate land battle for her survival.

Now no such conversation is ever heard. Invasion is a word that now applies solely to the continent—not to England. Arguments now usually center on whether Germany can be knocked out by air. Regardless of tactician strategists and of optimistic enthusiasm of both British and American airmen, both Governments are preparing ground assaults to follow up air softening.

News of the commotion which bombing is causing in Germany is printed here in black type. Strange things are being said over the German radio to the German people, and it is difficult to interpret them at anything except alarm over the increasing devastation of bombing. But we must remember that Germany is a huge country. The Ruhr is the most important industrial section, but there are others. Also there has been industrial dispersal, so that bombers will have to reach deeper into Germany, which will be done during the longer nights.

Hardheaded Britishers probably don't expect Germany to surrender. They feel that it is clearly certain to them. Nevertheless, if Italy can

be knocked out that is bound to have a discouraging effect in Germany. Furthermore, should bombing may become more intense. Bombers will be able more easily to reach Vienna and industrial areas in other parts of Germany now most distant from Britain.

The Britisher is taking all of this with the feeling that England is rapidly coming out on top. People are making money. You hear stories of families all in war factories making a total income equivalent to \$300 or more weekly—which was unheard of among English workingmen.

Hotels are packed. You have to make dinner reservations early in the morning. Theaters are sold out weeks ahead. Night clubs are packed everywhere. American officers and soldiers on leave, with pockets crammed with pounds, add to the money. The luxury hotels are crowded with Britiders and rich refugees. The shortages in Britain are in food, clothing, gasoline and other articles, not money. The service is poor, food worse, but prices are high. An inferior meal costs a pound at a regular hotel, where the gouge comes through service charges.

The difference I note between Britain and America is that war, with all its inconveniences, is taken much more in stride here than in America. Of course they have been at it longer here—they went through the blitz, through fear of imminent invasion and through the long nights of winter of two years ago is bound to make everything else seem minor by comparison.

Another difference, that matters much more to the contrasting behavior, is that here people are set to continue Prime Minister Churchill in office indefinitely whereas in America the political opposition is using every means under one administration to prepare for next year's elections. War irritates the ready campaign fodder for politicians to feed to voters.

Side Glances



"Our new neighbor seems to be having a terrible time—won't you run over and help him get his car started?"

Chew On This a While, Adolf!

—By Dorman Smith

The President seems to be having a terrible time—won't you run over and help him get his car started?

Heavily armed is brought into play in the shape of the Congressional blitz to dismantle the domestic branch of the Office of War Information, on the charge that it is a "political" agency. The attack was begun by Representative Starnes of Alabama, who, using the high Congressional privilege of not having to make sense, denounced Elmer Davis as an American Goebbels. A furious speech followed by Representative Leonard Allen of Louisiana, who accused the OWI of "fomenting racial discord," probably because it had issued a pamphlet outlining the war contributions of American Negroes.

In All Wars Boats For Victory



Rep. Starnes

He May Know Even Less Of OWI Than of Marlowe

From "Ships"

ON A COLD and blustery November fourth morning in the year of 1814, Robert Fulton, inventor of the steamship, and Christopher Marlowe, considered the state of the nation, then currently at war—a war not going too well for the nation.

He warmed his hands at the fireplace, adjusted his steel-bowed spectacles, pulled a sheet of parchment close to him, carefully selected a quill, and slowly and pompously read the following letter to the Honorable James Monroe, Secretary of War, of the United States of America.

This letter, yellowed with age, a priceless document now the treasured property of Emil Hurja, well-known Washington publisher, consists striking and timely evidence that the inventor of the steamboat was far-seeing, that he actually visualized the vital importance and the possibilities of this new method of transportation, and accurately pointed out the element of armed forces—the thing we today call logistics, one of the most important factors of today's war.

Specifically, he wrote to James Monroe, "Before this war terminates the Enemy may make an attack on New Orleans or Louisiana, in which case it is important that Government should have a rapid and sure means for transporting the Tennessee, Kentucky and other troops of the Western Country to the scene of action."

There's sound military logic in the one hundred and twenty-nine year old letter. Fulton was right. It may be, now that you think of it, that Rep. Starnes was only talking when he accused Elmer Davis of being an American Goebbels.

He warns to his argument as the letter continues, and he points out that four steamboats could carry 4,000 men from Louisville to New Orleans in fifteen or twenty days—back in from thirty-five to forty days—and adds "... such rapid movements to meet the enemy will give power and confidence to the Nation and thereby honor to your administration of the War Department."

Never did a nation stand in greater need of having honor reflected upon it!

Disaster after disaster had overtaken our military and naval forces in the state of the nation. Involvement in its mind and its morale were concerned, was definitely in the lower brackets. James Monroe stood in for a moment, considering which would be the more important to a dejected and dispirited nation—the United States itself needed a victory to restore its standing in international circles. Fulton knew this; James Monroe also had that same knowledge.

The letter made a flat proposal that the War Department purchase and use for troop transport four steamships on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, owned by Fulton and his associates.

True, the Vesuvius was aground and the Bina not yet completed. Also, the New Orleans and Natchez Boat, he explains, was sunk in June, but the machinery had been salvaged and a new hull was being built and she could, he estimated, be made ready by Spring. The Ohio Steamboat, he confessed, was under construction but would be ready.

Fulton's offer was not accepted—the document became a part of the official archives. The enemy did win. War and says abruptly, "I hope reflection made ready by Spring. The Ohio Steamboat, he confessed, was under construction but would be ready."

Fulton's offer was not accepted—the document became a part of the official archives. The enemy did win. War and says abruptly, "I hope reflection made ready by Spring. The Ohio Steamboat, he confessed, was under construction but would be ready."

Fulton undoubtedly remembered—history does not record if James Monroe remembered.

Negroes And The Army

Editors, The News:

As American citizens we are seeking and appealing to you for your co-operation and assistance in regards to the above named project.

It is believed that your endorsement and co-operation will carry much weight and will be far reaching in helping us to reach a successful objective. Our request is something new. We realize that such a project does not exist or function in connection with the War Department for Negroes.

What we are seeking is something which is not included in the War Department for Negroes concerned to land this office. At present there are no funds made in the Army schemes for such post, although there should be one. A unanimous vote forth by Negroes of North Carolina in their recommendation for expansion of the Public Relations Office to include a man to handle such a project, although there should be one. A unanimous vote forth by Negroes of North Carolina in their recommendation for expansion of the Public Relations Office to include a Negro is not a big thing, but a small thing relatively, and we would carry any relations at all, but I do much to better them.

Being that you have already been interested in Negroes and political development, we feel that you should be interested in this project.

The progressive Negro leaders behind this movement are: Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Bethune-Cookman College, Florida; Mrs. C. S. Stansbury, Dr. J. Sheppard of Durham; Dr. and Mrs. H. L. McCrorey, Jr. C. Smith University, Charlotte; Dr. F. L. Bluford, A&T College, Greensboro; Professor and Mrs. Trent, Livingstone College, Salisbury; Professor Arthur Chippey, St. Augustine College, Raleigh.

—WOODS MORGAN.

Kaiser At Work

Some New York Times

SOME time ago Henry J. Kaiser was in the news in connection with New York to the West Coast, hiring hundreds if not thousands of workers here for his busy shipyards out there. But he has since decided to establish his personal office here which is reassuring to those who have the city's prestige at heart.

Mr. Kaiser had difficulty in recalling all the names of his ventures he is interested in, but they run something like this: Kaiser Cement Plant; the world, two plants making asphalt for airfields, twelve to fifteen making concrete, a steel mill, a machine tool plant, a steamship line to Hawaii, two magnesium and helicopter plants, a tin-making ammonium sulphate, telusol, benzol, naphthalene, etc. Kaiser has also been making cement plants, a power plant, and airplane factories making or contemplating huge cargo planes and helicopters. Construction of new locks for the Panama Canal was issued in as a sort of afterthought.

Other people, preferring a peaceful monotony, would go mad trying to juggle so many interests. It cannot be assumed that only in the cities or among those who manage great industrial ventures are there men of Mr. Kaiser's versatile quality. The Associated Press in a story from London tells of his equal in equaling in Wales. This may be the village schoolmaster; party line telephone operator; warder, member of parish council and housekeeper; the waterer; air preacher; Sunday

Busiest Man

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Bible Thought

We need greater wisdom than our own. It is ours to use, God has not left us in darkness; O that thou hadst hearkened to my communications; then had I not been vexed in my words.