

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday By

The News Publishing Company, Inc.

W. C. Dowd, Jr., President

General Manager

W. C. Dowd, Jr., Editor, Vice-President and Editor, on leave for the duration

W. C. Dowd, 1945-1957

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

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

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Subscription Rates: By carrier, 20 cents a week; one month, 67 cents. By mail: One month, \$1.00; three months, \$2.50; six months, \$4.50; one year, \$10.00.

TUESDAY, JULY 6, 1943

By The Thousands Planes At The Fronts

By Raymond Clapper

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NORTH AFRICA
NOT so long ago it was a wonder where all the planes, ships, tanks and men that we talked about in such gigantic numbers actually were. Now I am at the other end of the line, or rather at the end of several lines, and the results of America's production program are beautifully evident.

Flying across North Africa I have landed at or passed over numerous airfields, all servicing planes in enormous numbers. From the air some of these fields looked as if flocks of enormous birds were resting on them. Here we are 4,000 miles from the American shipping ports, yet material and men for the invasion of the Continent of Europe are flowing regularly and smoothly into the concentration ports of North Africa as well as those of Britain. In Britain I saw acres of supplies in huge depots serviced by specially constructed depot railroads. In North Africa, from the west coast across more than a thousand miles of coastline, are more such depots. Harbors are busy with shipping, which is now freely using the Mediterranean.

What I have seen both in England and here proves to me beyond question that the submarine, if not licked, is in no serious degree hindering the shipping of supplies to concentration points around the perimeter of Axis Europe.

Figures on sinkings of material bound for North Africa are unbelievably low. Allied ships loaded with

supplies are now seen far inside the Mediterranean in large numbers. For the time being the submarines have ceased to be a serious problem. Use of the Mediterranean is like adding a third or more to our tonnage, because it eliminates the longest supply line in the world, which we run around Africa.

These facts indicate a spectacular change in the Allied war position since I went across Africa a year ago. That trip had to be made through Central Africa, because the Axis had the north. We were trying to send urgent supplies by air because the shipping route was so slow. The Central African route was then an important artery, but now in a year's time it has become secondary. The Allied line has moved a thousand miles north to the coast and the Mediterranean.

A year ago production figures were in the thousands yet MacArthur in the Pacific and Stilwell in India talked in hundreds, and that was sometimes exaggeration. As far away as China I heard pitiful stories. Perhaps it has taken a long time for the flow of material to "fill up the pipe" so that the equipment coming out at the end bears some proportion to the amount rolled off the production lines.

Whatever our shortcomings in management and movement of it and of enormous number of troops over long and dangerous supply lines is clearly a historical achievement, unparalleled in the last war, and probably far beyond anything Hitler ever calculated as possible.

An Old Tune President Still Can't Bear Critics From The Press

Year by year it becomes clearer that Franklin Roosevelt, left to his own devices, would surely place a muzzle upon the free American press. The President's latest complaint since the beginning has been that "reporters and columnists" were forced to take orders from evil bosses, and that the press prostituted itself to commercialism at every turn in this country. For Franklin Roosevelt is easily nettled, has never been able to fathom or brook criticism, and knows so little of the technical side of journalism that his tirades are not to be taken seriously.

But the fact that they come from the President of the United States lifts these complaints from the ordinary and makes of them threats to the American way of life. For the President, in order to have the hated columnists write as he would have them write, would have to stifle the press, take it under the Government wing, stifle its individualism, and teach it never to bite the hand that fed it. The President is all wet about the American press, and his lack of understanding of it makes the clearer the fact that he does not, in these times, understand the thinking of his people.

As late as last week the President accused the columnists of stirring up contention and trouble in the domestic front, simply to discredit the Administration. He said that the columnists were not at fault—that they had to write what the bosses said. That was a grave accusation, and one impossible of substantiation so far as we know. The newspaper business has traditionally spawned a race of rugged individualists to whom prostitution never occurred. In the operation of a newspaper, so far as we know, it would be almost impossible for anyone to dictate to reporters and columnists—outside the setting of the most desirable policy for this or that paper.

If Franklin Roosevelt knew that, he might at least be able to castigate the press once again at last week's conference. He has to answer, so far as we're concerned, as to what newspaper men caused the coal strike catastrophe, with its prostration and shrinking from authority; which columnists caused the public outbreak between Henry Wallace and Jesse Jones; who caused the Elk Hills oil scandal with the Navy; just what reporters are responsible for the revolt of Congress on the anti-strike bill, and the failure of Federal agents; whose is the blame for the continued food program, with the delayed appointment of one car after another.

We agree with the President in his summary: the war does make progress on the home front, despite the signs of confusion. We cannot agree that, in those instances which bespeak failure, the free press is to blame. He can look a great deal closer home for that.

Inflation

It Sweeps Through Europe As a Result of Nazi Greed

Inside Europe, the end must seem a great deal closer than from any outside vantage point. There is evidence, for example, that fiscal affairs in all the nations of the continent are in a chaotic condition. Germany has exhausted their resources by clever Nazi operations and deliberate confusion of property ownership have resulted in huge deficits. All budgets are greatly out of balance, and the country financial conditions for the next few years is out of the question with the captive governments.

The deficits are being covered now by unsecured paper money, so that inflation is sweeping through all Europe, with Germany herself benefiting by every change because of a favorable rate of exchange, fixed by the conquerors. Thus, while confusion reigns in all the other countries, and life daily becomes more difficult, Germany manages to hang on to a kind of fiscal stability. She has problems of her own in the field of inflation, but she still profits greatly from the misfortunes of the conquered lands.

At the end of four years of war, it is pointed out by authorities, Europe is in a much worse condition than that was at the end of 1918. Not only has the destruction of property been on a far vaster scale, but the financial position of nations is infinitely weaker. The inescapable conclusion is that the whole European economy would topple in a million dollars in the street. The populace will never be willing

to rise against the invaders given a ringing Allied victory to spur it along; that there will be no temptation of reconstruction and realignment to be done in the days after peace. The Nazis are doing a thorough job, so thorough that they are inevitably bringing about their own demise.

Wellsprings

States Are What They Are Because of Men Who Write

A contemporary, W. T. Polk of the Greensboro Daily News, appearing before a gathering of English teachers at Chapel Hill last week, stabbed right at the roots of this war in a fashion we liked. Never before have we heard the enemy separated from our world by a line of literary taste, but that's Mr. Polk's idea: come to think of it, he has everything on his side.

The theory is built of a number of things: That Democracy was born of literature, and was thus expressed to the peoples of the world—it did not spring to life from documents. It is Conrad's theory of the solidarity of humanity, of kinship between the quiet and the dead, of the march of all mankind toward some higher goal. It is also the Greek faith in reason and the Jewish faith in righteousness.

And the enemy, Mr. Polk declared, has cooked up his witches' brew from Hegel's supremacy of the state, Schopenhauer's supremacy of will over reason, Darwin's survival of the fittest, and Nietzsche's master race theory. Outfitted with a philosophy like that, tooling the *Horst Wessel* and sailing on the great waves of the sea, the Nazi party made its way to war. In the background was the kind of literature free men cannot swear by.

The crisis arose, says Mr. Polk, when Neville Chamberlain's vicious stare was fixed upon Adolf Hitler at Munich; the chosen representative of a weak government looked at his enemy and did not recognize him. He did not understand what the little man meant to his world. But the Nazis, more familiar with the villains in Dante's *Inferno* and Genesis, knew the devil as soon as he saw him.

It is a fascinating theory, that nations are what they read. Certainly they are what they believe their literature, and their destiny is forever tangled with the tales their writers tell.

Dead Duck

NYA Got the Knife Without A Sign of an Investigation

Well, there goes the National Youth Administration, floating by in the discard despite the fact that it was about the first agency in these United States to foresee the coming of war times, and to completely revise its activities. Perhaps NYA's blackest sin was that it changed too soon, and too suddenly. It changed with such a flash that Congress didn't know a change had been made. Congress thought NYA was still raking leaves, or working in modeling clay, or taking young men off farms to weave rugs and make chairs. Congress didn't know.

NYA took a licking at the hands of the Democratic process of balloting. In the first committee battle it lost by a one-vote margin (31-32 or some such). In the second committee battle it lost again by a one-vote margin (this time 16-17). If money is correctly voted, it went from the House to the Senate, it had every chance to be saved; but in a cleanup campaign, the upper chamber killed it by a close vote.

Congress, in short, wasn't at all sure that NYA wasn't doing the nation some good, despite the cries of the Republicans. In the end, of course, the gentlemen decided they'd better be listening to the GOP's politicians than to the noisy, noisy, noisy matter, investigated. Perhaps we should wonder, in the long run, that NYA is dead. Certainly a definite sum of money is to be saved. Just as certain as the fact that the flow of almost 1,000 trained workers per day into war industries has been stopped.

This time, Congress didn't have time to take more than a cursory look at the agency it killed. It had long insisted upon investigation of this and that New Deal Bureau. But when the NYA was for NYA there was no investigation. There was only the pounding of tables, and loose tempers on the floor. NYA, in short, was framed.

We Are Amused

France Is Still France

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK
I HAVE a feeling that an increasing number of Frenchmen are beginning to side with de Gaulle, purely for the reason that he seems more French than Giraud; more French, in the sense that he has an individual policy, and is not an echo of America or England. This does not mean that Giraud is American. I believe that Giraud's coming trip to America, an enormous mark of our favor, will do a huge recruiting job for de Gaulle.

Correspondents in Africa have, in some alarm, noticed what they call an emerging spirit of "French nationalism" around de Gaulle. They are stirred by this, they should be stirred, because the fact that fire is hot or that water is always wet.

The French feel French. They do not feel American, they do not feel English; they feel French. As to their reaction to the de Gaulle-Giraud situation, ask yourself what the American reaction would be if we followed a national misfortune, and two contenders for leadership, one of whom was favored by a brace of foreign countries.

The thing is even further: Suppose that one of these would-be leaders felt their country was being fought every step of the way, had organized the resistance against him, while the second had been picked out of a hat by two foreign governments.

Suppose that one of these men was well and favorably known to every enslaved patriot, while the second was hardly known at all. But suddenly it becomes a great big, burning issue.

Platform Of The People

Faith Stands Paramount

Editors, The News:
This is my answer to Pvt. Dowd, W. J. Fox Jackson, S. C. published in your paper on Wednesday June 23, 1943, entitled "An Answer To Woolley."

I thoroughly agree with you that Charlotte as a city is not blessed, neither is the individual who lives here. If you want to get a picture of man, read your Bible at Romans chapter three. Yes, it is true, everything you have said about the loss of these lives is true. I am all the rest of the Old Testament Patriarchs. But, if you will turn to the New Testament at Hebrews chapter 11 you will find God's record of these men who were faithful. He does not record their sins, but only their FAITH—they believed, and they were glorified to them for righteousness.

This is the glorious part of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

that unity must be established with the second man. He is a man who, in the political sense, did not even exist eight months ago. This is a vital movement for unity with Britain, but it might just as easily have been a movement for unity with Jones, or Brown, if we had happened to pick Jones or Brown, instead of Giraud.

Under these circumstances, it is about as astonishing as a miracle that a French national movement should be developing about de Gaulle. In fact, the law of compensation is now hard at work. The more we snub de Gaulle the more we convince Frenchmen that he is their leader. After three years of exile, his prestige is at its zenith.

The kinder we are to Giraud, the more partiality and preference we show for him, the more we persuade Frenchmen that Giraud is merely our man. It has been incredible innocence on the part of our State Department to invite Giraud to come to America, obviously to throw that same visit with him back to Giraud, and to make him look like a puppet to us, but with de Gaulle left behind, it merely makes him look to Frenchmen like my white-haired boy, and the French are so tired of white-haired boys selected wonders, picked leaders, careful arrangements, and behind-the-scenes conversations!

The people of France want to do; they are weary of being done to; they are weary of being done to for the voice of France to arise again. Now that it is heard, we are childishly startled to find that it is French and English and not that we begin to mutter nonsense about the dangers of "French nationalism." We are surprised to find that the French have a will of their own.

"Yes, I say unto you, that whosoever believeth on a woman to just evil thought? Her heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?"

As you will note from the above Bible quotations, man is utterly helpless and cannot save himself. Have you ever had an evil thought? What are we going to do about our evil thoughts? Our heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?"

Yes, Pvt. Jones, I am a sinner, you are a sinner and Bob Woolley is also a sinner and every one else who has ever been born into this world except One, and that One is our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Just One.

This is the will of Him that sent Me, that every one who seeth the Son of Man and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day." John 6:40

When sinners make that unconditional surrender to the Lord Jesus Christ, the REPENTING will automatically take care of itself. Christ does the repenting for you. He takes away all your sins and gives you a new heart. "Old things have passed away, behold all things have become new." This is the NEW BIRTH of which our Lord spoke to Nicodemus in the third chapter of John. All lost sinners have the privilege of coming to the Saviour and praying this prayer: "Lord be merciful to me a sinner and save me for Jesus' sake" and receive forgiveness of sin.

—AND S. A. HUNTER Jr., Charlotte.



"I wish you wouldn't insist on a big wedding. Mother, after wearing these work clothes for a year, I'll feel awfully silly in that outfit!"

Says Nothing The Foxy Dewey

By Jay C. Hayden

WASHINGTON
AFTER three days of conferencing with his fellow governors in Ohio, Thomas E. Dewey departed as he came—the supreme enigma of the 1944 Republican Presidential race. At least one hundred people—governors, accompanying politicians and newspaper men—moved on Columbus with a three-car caravan to stroke Mr. Dewey out of the governors are known to have told him he could have the full delegations from their states if only he would give them the whispered word that he would accept the Presidential nomination.

Not only did they fail to elicit any such assurance but they were left with the impression that at this time Mr. Dewey himself had not decided what answer he would make to a convention draft. Perhaps, in emulation of President Roosevelt's attitude respecting fourth term candidacy, he is waiting for unpredictable events at home and abroad in the year ahead to make his decision.

One thing is certain: Mr. Dewey is greatly enamored of his present job, and well he should be. From the standpoint both of prestige and emoluments the governorship of New York is the second best elective office in the United States. It embraces a \$25,000 salary, plus \$14,500 annually for support of the Executive Mansion and other expenses. Tenure is limited only by popular consent. Al Smith and Herbert H. Lehman, among recent governors, each was elected four times, Smith serving eight and Lehman ten years.

Now forty-one, Dewey could serve ten years as governor, two and one-half terms, and still be only fifty-one, young as Presidential candidates go, when the 1952 election rolls around. And in this span both the Roosevelt political era and global war presumably have passed into history.

There is no doubt that these are considerations very much in Mr. Dewey's mind. Whatever happens next year he will be sitting pretty and he knows it.

Up to the time when a Republican national convention may shove the Presidential nomination at him, Mr. Dewey's position is in no way ambiguous. Opening his gubernatorial campaign last fall he declared that, if elected, he would serve out his four-year term, ending in January, 1947. He issued this pronouncement because he believed the people would be less likely to vote for him for governor if they suspected him of a design to use that office merely as a Presidential stepping-stone.

After election, Dewey reiterated his pledge and further defined it. He has said repeatedly, both verbally and in written replies to inquirers, that he will publicly announce whether he attempts to mount up delegates for him or to place him in nomination after the convention convenes.

Assuming that Mr. Dewey sticks to his guns, as all of his close associates believe he will, he can only be nominated if the rank and file delegates, at some point in the convention, stampede to him without visible leadership. Mr. Dewey's influence goes so far as to prove that he will never say, publicly or privately, whether he would accept under these conditions, short of the moment when an accomplished nomination is placed before him.

When Mr. Dewey came to Columbus it was the first time he had stepped outside of New York State since he was elected governor. He told friends here he would have liked to seize the opportunity to visit his old home in Oswego, but he didn't dare do it because he might be charged with courting Michigan Presidential support. The inference was that he will not leave New York State, except on official business, at any time during the coming year.

The remarkable aspect of all this is that Republican politicians, including a great many of the big names, are going right ahead with their nomination bids. Even here in Ohio, where all factions are supposed to be centered in Governor Dewey, there is a surprising number of the men who count in Republican affairs who are still under their breath.

A striking angle of the situation relates to New York's powerful delegation of 80. Some of the political wise men argue that, while the governor of a small state might lie under a log, no one with a big State Department to invite Giraud to come to America, obviously to throw that same visit with him back to Giraud, and to make him look like a puppet to us, but with de Gaulle left behind, it merely makes him look to Frenchmen like my white-haired boy, and the French are so tired of white-haired boys selected wonders, picked leaders, careful arrangements, and behind-the-scenes conversations!

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—AND S. A. HUNTER Jr., Charlotte.

The Good News Fewer Casualties

MOST American families are looking forward to the next great drive against the Axis with optimism tempered by dread of heavy American losses. So far the loss of life and limb has been considerably lower than in the early days of the world war, although casualties have not been much lower.

The reason is, of course, that in World War II the United States has not yet launched an offensive involving large numbers of troops. In the Meuse-Arnonne battle of 1918 alone no less than 120,000 American soldiers took part, according to War Department computations. The number of American soldiers in actual combat in North Africa has probably less than one-tenth of the Meuse-Arnonne total. Casualties in the Meuse-Arnonne action, which lasted 47 days, were 100,000 or 10 percent of the number of soldiers engaged.

Also, the United States Army and Navy have been spared in this war anything like the influenza epidemic in 1918, which killed almost a million men, and a large proportion of the number of soldiers engaged. Army deaths from all diseases totaled 57,000; from battle, 30,000; from other causes, including accidents, 8,000; for a total death toll of 95,000. In the Army alone, the number of soldiers killed in action by the enemy, deaths came to 10,000, for a grand total of 105,000 deaths in the armed forces in 1917-18.

Some other statistics of 1917-18 are as follows:
Of every 100 American in the uniform, two died as a result of battle or disease. For every man killed in battle, six were wounded. Five of the six recovered sufficiently to return to duty. The advance of medical science should make the proportion even higher in World War II.
Against 125,000 deaths from all causes in 1917-18, the Army and Navy reported on June 24, 1943, deaths of 11,192 from the total of wounded in the two services came to 21,000. In addition, the Army reported 24,875 as missing and the Navy 11,000.
In the Army alone, the War Department reports that 6,000 other soldiers from the Philippines. It is believed that by far the greatest number of these are prisoners of war, so that perhaps only about one-third of the 24,875 missing would be dead. The fact that the other hand, hope must be abandoned for probably three-fourths of the Navy missing.

In studying the above figures, it must be remembered that deaths occur also in civilian life. The latest available figures show a death rate of about 3,000 per 1,000,000 men between 20 and 25.—Editorial Research Service.