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And Evening Chronicle

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No Takers

Even A Thrust Beyond Japan Isn't Answered

More than 5,000 miles from Pearl Harbor, far west of Japan, and within 100 miles of the China coast, the U. S. Third Fleet pushed its armada and loosed its planes. Into the East China Sea, heretofore a virtual Japanese lake, Admiral Marc Mitscher's great force drove the heaviest and most sustained carrier assaults in history. The punishing blows dealt by this bold stroke were not only significant because they raked the Jap home islands near Kyushu and swept down the Ryukukus which flank the enemy's inner defenses. They spelled looming disaster and inevitable doom for the Japanese military and naval machine.

For the Third Fleet, surely as large as that force which blasted the Marianas last June, likely boasts a minimum of twenty carriers, able to put up 1,000 planes, escorted by the newest and most powerful battleships, cruisers, destroyers and flocks of auxiliary vessels. The Navy dared to drive this force into the very lair of the enemy. With Pearl Harbor the only true base in the Pacific, the limited facilities of the Marianas 1,700 miles behind and the larger ones of the Marshalls 3,500 miles behind, the Fleet risked its full-scale attack.

This action was no hit-and-run raid; the Navy flattened Formosa (which is Japan's Gibraltar) in an obvious move to flatten a flank to the Philippines. It stuck to the job for more than a week, destroyed 800 Jap planes and sank or damaged some 200 Jap ships, exclusive of small craft. In the midst of a furious exchange in which the enemy amazingly failed to inflict more than superficial damage upon our surface forces, a portion of the Japanese Imperial Fleet appeared, saw more than it wanted to see, and turned tail. This alone should have put to rest an American fear dating from Pearl Harbor.

Our naval forces, it is shown again, can operate successfully at almost any distance from its bases, and are so powerful that they can move into close contact with land-based planes, strike telling blows, and escape with minor damage. The Jap Navy is by no means finished. Before Saipan it was known to include ten battleships, seven or eight large carriers, 35 cruisers, 75 destroyers. It suffered losses in the battle of the Philippines, but is still powerful and important. But in view of the phenomenal success of our smashes at Luzon, Formosa and the Ryukukus in the past week, its future looks dark, however powerful it may be.

Refusing action off Formosa (probably wisely) it faces these two alternatives: If most of its force is in the South, in the Indies, at Singapore or around the Philippines, it risks being cut off from the homeland. If its power is at home, in the Yellow Sea or the Sea of Japan, it risks being shut up in its bases. Its end may not come soon, but Admiral Mitscher's plunge across the last long miles almost to within sight of the China coast, predicts ominously what that end will be. Japan's naval power can scarcely be more boldly challenged than it was last week. For all practical purposes, our forces might as well have been standing off the Jap coast, pounding at Yokahama Harbor itself.

At Odds

Pollsters And Betting Men Can't See Alike

There's a strange time lag between the experts who poll the nation's political opinion and the experts who juggle the betting odds. It's not akin to the vicious and punishing lag between prices and wages, of which the economists preach, but it's a full-fledged lag, all the same. And it's curious.

On the one hand, you'll find columnists writing these days that we're heading for the closest election since 1916, when a confounded Charles Evans Hughes awoke one morning to discover that he had not become President of the United States, after all. And the polls bear out that theory. In the midst of apathy, they report, there is a slight swing toward Mr. Dewey, and the Republicans gain in eighteen or twenty states. No one goes back to 1940 and beyond, to count up the votes Democrats and Republicans might expect on past performance. These experts seem to find it of little significance that Mr. Willkie polled 22,000,000 votes, but carried only ten states, and was overwhelmed in the Electoral College. It looks very close, from this side.

But the shrewd men who set the odds and oversee the risking of election money accept none of this. Though they are traditionally conservative in setting odds, they have rigged them so that you must bet $3 to win $1 on Mr. Roosevelt—and bet $1 to win $2.50 in case Mr. Dewey is elected. A St. Louis betting commissioner, explaining, reports that there are 29 states with 296 electoral votes in the Roosevelt column, and only 19 states, with 235 electoral votes, in the Dewey column.

It would seem that, so long as men are just talking, this election looks like a toss-up; but when they back their talk with cash, the President looks like a shoo-in.

Weak Spot

Dewey Lambasts FDR Where He's Vulnerable

In his St. Louis speech Monday night, Governor Dewey kept hammering at his opponent in one of his most vulnerable spots. That spot is, in a word, administration. As an administrator, holding full sway over the executive department of the Government, President Roosevelt for almost twelve years has given the country an exhibition of ineptness and rich waste.

In 1932 it was he who came challenging the sloppy administration of the Government. In a campaign speech at Sioux City, Iowa, he said—and Governor Dewey might aptly have quoted his words—

"I accuse the present (Hoover) Administration of being the greatest spending administration in all our history . . . It has piled bureau on bureau, commission on commission . . . Bureaus and bureaucrats, commissions and commissioners have been retained at the expense of the taxpayer."

When hapless President Hoover went out of office, the number of jobholders in the executive department of the Government was 572,091. At the end of two terms under Roosevelt—by March, 1941—the total had increased to 1,176,763. It now stands at 3,112,965. Of these, a great many persons are employed in activities springing from and made necessary by the war. A great many, however, perhaps well over half, are manning non-war agencies and will, we may be sure, remain attached to the public pay roll, through thick and thin.

The President, who is a busy and an abstracted man, given to formulating rather than effectuating policies, would do well to farm out the administration of the Government to some other. Dewey, in St. Louis, sounded as though he would like to have the job.

Penny-Wise

Can We Save Cotton By Giving It Away?

South Carolina's Rep Fulmer, with one eye on ailing King Cotton and another on the newsprint shortage, aims to legislate us out of a pair of predicaments at one swoop. It is his idea that we might use a good deal of low-grade cotton to mix with wood pulp, producing newsprint and other commercial paper, resulting in a better product, a new market for cotton, and "conservation of our forest resources."

Without expert consultation, it seems to us that Rep. Fulmer is only heading us deeper into trouble. This is surely no answer to the dilemma of the cotton grower. It would channel cotton into a low-cost field, using up the danged stuff simply to get rid of it so Southern Congressmen could continue to offer bonuses for growing cotton.

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON

ASSISTANT Secretary of State Adolf Berle, the man whom Governor Dewey insinuated was a Socialist, was sitting in his State Department office, the other day, when popular Herbert Lehman, former Governor of New York, now head of UNRRA, dropped in to see him.

Berle who, among other things, keeps an eye on State Department passports, had held up the passports of two U. S. women workers whom Governor Lehman proposed sending to Europe on United Nations relief work. Berle contended the two women were Communists, so Lehman dropped in to remonstrate with him.

"This is an international organization," Lehman told Berle. "It is run by the United Nations, not by the United States. For instance, we have Russian Communists working for us and you could not hold up their passports.

"I have made an investigation of these two American women," Lehman continued, "and I am convinced they are not Communists. But even if they were, I don't think, in an international organization of this kind, you have any right to bar these women from working."

And then, remembering the Socialists charge Dewey had hurled at Berle, Lehman let him have this parting shot.

"Besides," he said, "don't you think you're setting a precedent by which a future Republican Administration might deny YOU a passport?

NOTE—Lehman is employed not by the United States but by the United Nations. Since each member national pays part of the bill, each is entitled to appoint a certain number of personnel. Incidentally, Adolf Berle for years has been known around the State Department as its chief Red-baiter. His wife inherited $3,000,000 of New York real estate.

Nobody Clears

Sidney Hillman was bawling out employees of the Political Action Committee in New York, over the handling of a press release last week. At the end of a rather thorough call-down, Hillman dolefully remarked: "The trouble with this office is that nobody clears anything with me."

Insurance Battle

Recent refusal of the U. S. Supreme Court to reconsider its Spring decision putting fire insurance under the anti-trust laws was a bad blow to the insurance companies. When the case came before the Court last term, they decided against the insurance companies by a 4-3 majority, Justices Roberts and Reed not participating.

Reed disqualified himself because his son, John, was a member of the law firm of Wright, Gordon, Zachry, Parlin and Cahill, which represented the insurance companies.

During the Summer, young Reed left the firm, joining another New York legal office. It was in the hope that his father, Justice Stanley Reed, would feel free to participate in the case with his son no longer in the Cahill firm, John Cahill asked for a rehearing, but Justice Reed again refused to participate, even though his son had transferred his allegiance from the Cahill firm.

Meanwhile, the insurance companies almost won out in another way. A bill exempting insurance from the anti-trust laws was passed last Spring by the House and reported favorably by the Senate Judiciary Committee over the vigorous objection of Wyoming's trust-hating Senator Joe O'Mahoney. Because it was arousing a storm of controversy in the Senate, Majority Leader Barkley agreed that the bill should not be brought up until after the election.

Last month, however, at the Senate's final session, this bill turned up on the consent calendar, which is composed mainly of personal suits against the Government which are considered passed if no objection is made as they are read.

No one paid much attention to what bills were being presented, and strange as it seems, the much controverted insurance bill went through without objection. Actually, Senator Barkley was blowing his nose at the time and did not even hear the number of the bill.

It was not until after the clerk had passed on down the calendar that Barkley and Senator Carl Hatch of New Mexico realized what had happened and demanded reconsideration. This was agreed. The two solons sat down wiping their brows.

Bringing Up The Last Reinforcements

—By Dorman Smith

Peace In San Francisco

By Marquis Childs

SAN FRANCISCO

THE Mayor of San Francisco is big, broad-shouldered Roger Lapham, a shipping millionaire who was elected with the votes of labor. The city has gone a long way since the years when waterfront strikes produced a kind of civil war. The vast activity of this port, so essential to the war in the Pacific, has been remarkably free of labor trouble.

Of course, organized labor didn't openly support Lapham, who is a registered Republican; but he could not have been elected without substantial support from that quarter. The mayoralty election, as in most California cities, is on a non-partisan basis. Anyone who can produce the small filing fee and testimonials of good character can have his name on the ballot, which has no party designations.

That is something outsiders fail to realize—that county and municipal politics in California have little to do with party organization. Here, where there is a cross filing and where most candidates run in both primaries, party labels mean less than almost anywhere else in the United States.

In a sense, Gov. Earl Warren is a non-partisan Governor. He has several Democrats in his Cabinet. It was undoubtedly one reason he declined to run as Vice-President in spite of the pressure put on him at Chicago. Gov. Warren can go out into the country, speaking for the ticket in Ohio and Minnesota, but there is precious little he can do in his own state.

Besides the national and state offices to be filled, Californians will have on their ballot a flock of constitutional provisions. One, and a similar proposal is before the voters in other Western States, would boost old-age pensions to $60 a month.

Perhaps the most controversial of the proposed amendments is Proposition No. 12. If Proposition No. 12 is adopted, it will become a crime to enforce closed shop or union shop contracts when an individual worker decides he does not want to belong to a union.

And yet there seems to be some chance it will pass. The tendency here is to blame a few die-hards in Los Angeles for Proposition No. 12. They initiated it, and they are backing it. Mayor Lapham has come out in a public statement opposing No. 12. A former member of the War Labor Board in Washington, he knows exactly what chaos it could create. For that reason, he did what he has rarely done—step beyond the bounds of his office to make his opposition known.

"It's interesting and instructive to see Roger Lapham disciplining himself in the role of public officeholder. He comes out of San Francisco's lusty, fortune-begetting background. He enjoyed his life as the head of a big shipping company, a man of money and power with resources for pleasure.

Yet he made himself, out of his sense of responsibility, run for public office. Directly in front of his desk is a wooden frame with lettering on the left-hand side that says "Days Gone," and on the right, "Days to Go." Each day his secretary adds a new digit to the left-hand side, and subtracts one from the right. He still has more than 1,100 days to go before the end of his term.

It's a chore, and often a bore. But this citizen of San Francisco is seeing it through.

The Washington Writers

The Saturday Review of Literature, having polled all accredited Washington correspondents, and received answers from 160 of them, published the results of that poll this week. Three of the tables went like this (the five leaders only):

1. The Washington correspondent who exerts through his writings the greatest influence on the nation:

Drew Pearson	56
Walter Lippman	28
Arthur Krock	13
David Lawrence	6
Marquis Childs	6

2. The Washington correspondent who exerts through his writings the greatest influence on Washington:

Arthur Krock	51
Drew Pearson	32
Walter Lippmann	19
Bert Andrews	4
Raymond Clapper	4

3. The Washington correspondent doing the best all-around job on the basis of reliability, fairness, ability to analyze news:

Thomas L. Stokes	25
Marquis Childs	23
Bert Andrews	8
Roscoe Drummond	8
Dewey L. Fleming	7

News readers should be interested in the results in view of Drew Pearson's leadership as an influential columnist. Though he received more than twice as many votes as any other writer in this category, he ranked 17th in reliability and fairness. And the Saturday Review points out that:

"Pearson is a kind of political Winchell, a listener at keyholes. His reliability has been questioned, but he hammers at inefficiency in the armed services and elsewhere. His exposures are greatly feared."

Pearson, placing second in the voting for the most influential writer in Washington, almost doubled the score on Walter Lippmann, as he did on a national basis. The Saturday Review announced itself as astonished by the poor showing made by Lippmann and questions whether this vote actually reflects the opinion of his contemporaries.

A newcomer who finished high, almost nosing out Thomas Stokes as the best all-around workman is Marquis Childs. By only two votes he lost the title to the most reliable correspondent. The SRL notes, too, that:

"It is deplorable that Raymond Clapper is not alive to be included in the poll. Not improbably, he would have been declared the correspondent with the greatest influence both in Washington and in the Nation. Surely he would have been voted the writer doing the best all-around job in terms of reliability, fairness, and ability to analyze the news. A few of the correspondents filling out the questionnaire voted for him anyway, possibly on the conviction that nobody has quite taken his place."

THE NEWS is aware that Mr. Pearson, who dominated this survey, is often questioned by readers. We edit him carefully ourselves, but never with absolute confidence. In his column has begun many an international controversy, and by far most of the amazing charges he has made have been found to be true. His attorney, O. Max Gardner, tells us that though Mr. Pearson has often been sued for libel, he has never yet lost a case.

Mr. Pearson, by the way, appears in 620 newspapers, is 47 years old, has been a teacher at Pennsylvania and Columbia, won honorable mention for the Pulitzer Prize in 1921 for his stories on the Cuban Revolution, worked for Red Cross in the Balkans during the last war. He is at present the most controversial figure among Washington correspondents, as well as the most influential and widely-read. In all of those facts, naturally, THE NEWS takes satisfaction. —Editors, THE NEWS.

SIDE GLANCES — By Galbraith

"That was a thriller you just told, but give me a chance now—you can't out-lie your grandpa!"

Everyday Counselor

By Herbert Spaugh, D. D.

JUST how much does the Christian religion mean to you? Is Jesus Christ a real personality in your life, or simply an historical character? Do you consider the churches of your community a necessity, or luxury which can be dispensed with?

This war we are fighting against Japan is going to bring us face to face with these questions before we have won the victory. The China News reminds us that, "Americans are apt to forget that in fighting Japan we are fighting more than human soldiers, more than guns and planes. We are fighting Japan's gods. Prisoners of war when Japanese troops pass by must kneel and avoid looking. If they are seen so much as to glance at the troops, they are severely beaten and punished. The Japanese soldiers represent their Emperor, and are too sacred to be watched.

"A Japanese soldier is not a supreme man as the Nazis claim to be. He is a divine subject of a sacred Emperor. Such a belief much be reckoned with as the soldier possessing it fights at an advantage.

"Emperor Hirohito has called upon his people to sacrifice more in their 'sacred war' against their enemies. To the fanatical Emperor-worshiping Japanese this is literally a call to do or die.

"Of democracy's two foes, Germany and Japan, the latter is the more dangerous. The average German somewhat methodically went into the war for profit. Roughly his philosophy was, 'When others have what you want and you think you are strong enough to take it, it is silly and weak not to take it.' Japan's philosophy was very similar. Ignoring all ideas of property rights and the freedom and dignity of the individual, she went into this war for the immediate and continuing spoils of war. But unlike Germany, she had an added incentive—the religious motive."

It was Premier Tojo who, bragging that his country will fight until the people of Britain and America "are brought to their knees", vowed that while the United States may rely on its increasing armament of guns, planes, tanks and cruisers, Japan will have the gods behind her.

It is well for us in the United States to remember that our forefathers went into battle for this freedom of ours with a deep trust, not in many gods, but in one Eternal God. This is evident as we read the history of the founding of the Republic. Its evidence remains in our national motto, "In God we trust." There is something about it which reminds us of that dramatic conflict years ago between the Prophet Elijah, representing Almighty God and the 400 priests of Baal; an all-day struggle the record of which is climaxed with these words, "And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice when Elijah the Prophet came near, and said, Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel . . . Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the Lord God. . . ."

That prayer brought results. It may well be that we in America should be more on our knees in heart-searching prayer.

Platform Of The People

We Can't Win

Editors, THE NEWS:

The main argument used by the anti-Roosevelt Southerners to get votes for Governor Dewey, or support for Senator Byrd (who is not running for President) is to the effect that "the South has been humiliated and slighted" by the Democratic Convention and by the Administration.

If Governor Dewey and a Republican Administration are elected in November, these are some of the changes which will take place as a matter of course:

Martin of Massachusetts for Rayburn of Texas.

Hamilton Fish of New York for Doughton of North Carolina.

Knutson of Illinois for Sumner of Texas.

Johnson of California for Connally of Texas.

Nye of North Dakota for George of Georgia.

In addition to these seniority changes, probable change would be Brownell of New York for Byrnes of South Carolina, Dulles of New York for Cordell Hull of Tennessee, and a possible change would be General Hugh Drum of New York for General George Marshall of Virginia.

A Republican Administration would eliminate 99 1-2 per cent of Southern influence in our National Government. As Winston Churchill would say, "Some humiliating, some slighting."

H. E. BRADERMAN.

Charlotte.

The GOP Must Do Better

Editors, The News:

I have been risking one ear to hear a little Republican campaign oratory. They are running Sidney Hillman for President on the Democratic ticket, but he is not running any more than the Pope of Rome did in 1928. They need to scrape up something with a more fearful sound.

And they didn't say anything about their Mr. Dulles. I would like to hear a little more about that fellow. Drew Pearson said Mr. Dulles was a pretty good German bond salesman in the days of Mr. Hoover's term.

Frank Patton was trying to make something out of the Democratic convention not having recognized Governor Broughton as a potential candidate for Vice-President. What chance would Mr. Patton have in a Republican convention? When did they ever nominate a Southern man for anything?

The best Mr. Patton could hope for in the event of a Republican victory would be to have some little Government job thrown his way, as a man would toss a biscuit to his hunting dog.

The Republicans can't make headway against the personality of Mr. Roosevelt. He has broken every old moss-backed tradition that stood in the way of progress, and the more he breaks the better the people like him. The Republicans talk about "that tired old man." Well, the Axis can't see him that way. Those folks call him "that man at Washington." A man who can handle a job like Roosevelt has doesn't get tired.

In the years to come he will be remembered as the great President who was called to the Government for such a time as this to save civilization from the Huns and Japs and to raise the common man to a new high in his standard of living.

—G. N. RAMSEY

Lincolnton, N. C.

Can We Criticize The President?

Editors, THE NEWS:

To settle an argument, please let me have some information on this question:

A maintains that there is a law forbidding criticism of the President or his policies in wartime.

B maintains that there is no such law.

Which is right?

DAVID J. WOOD.

Wilmington, N. C.

(Mr. A has either given no attention to the rising swell of criticism of the President since 1933, or else looks upon the U. S. as a nation of lawbreakers. Brother B. is dead right; there is no such law. Critics may say anything they like, short of treasonable utterances. They may even go, unfortunately, as far as Col. Bertie McCormick.—Editors, The News.

Our chances of preventing another world war will be in direct proportion to the extent to which we establish real international law with sufficient government at the world level to enforce it.—Senator Joseph H. Ball (R) of Minnesota.

The Japs are hard hit. This is no time for us to relax. I believe we should hit them now with both fists.—Lt.-Gen. Walter Kreuger in South Pacific.

Luck Was With These GI's Near Aachen

By HAL BOYLE

WITH A U. S. TASK FORCE IN GERMANY, Oct. 12—(Delayed)—(AP)—The luckiest men in the armored march through the Siegfried Line north of Aachen were seven crew members of one halftrack who suddenly found their vehicle had become a wastebasket for German artillery.

BOYLE

Their halftrack caught a dud, a a three-inch enemy shell, and everybody concerned is quite happy to be alive and able to tell the story.

"We were moving to an assembly area near Palenburg when the Jerries started pumping over artillery," said T/5 Louis Lancaster, Memphis, Tenn., commander of the halftrack. "One shell smacked into the rear of our car."

The impact hurled a heavy box of ammunition through the air and it cracked Pvt. James Holmes, Belmont, Mass., on the head, but his helmet saved him from serious injury.

"That shell struck in another box containing time chains and when we saw it hadn't exploded we all took off," said Lancaster.

Later he found an ordnance major who removed the shell and the boys climbed back into the halftrack and went to work again on the Siegfried Line.

Other members of the crew included T/5 Michael De Yunn, Passaic, N. J., driver; Pvt. Nelson B. Johnson, Baltimore, Md.; Pvt. Earl Artz, Le Banon, Pa.; Pvt. Joseph Schmotzer, Portland, Ore., and Pvt. Dave Rosenberg, Cleveland, Ohio.

CAROLINIAN'S EXPERIENCE

In one command post Lt. Joseph K. Still, Blackville, S. C., was eating lunch with Capt. Howard Johnson, Frankfort, N. Y., Lt. Edward Brennick, Staten Island, N. Y., and Sgt. Luther Thompson, Nashville, Tenn.

"It wouldn't be bad to get one of those 'million dollar wounds,'" Still said jokingly. "You know, one that wasn't serious but just bad enough to get you out of the front lines."

At that moment a German 75-mm armor-piercing shell cracked into the room after piercing three walls, bounced three times from the ceiling to the floor, struck him in the leg and lodged in the opposite hall. Still was only slightly hurt.

Eight medics in one armored infantry regiment had their house blown away.

S/Sgt. Wilson Fosdick, Walworth, N. Y., moved their forward dressing station into the basement of a three-story house in Ubach when the town was subjected to a terrific German artillery barrage.

During lulls they would rush out into the streets, pick up wounded, and bring them in.

On the morning of the second day there was a terrific explosion. They rushed upstairs, finding daylight where the walls had been.

Furniture on the first floor still was intact, but the rest of the house was completely blasted.

"There must have been some ammunition on the second or third floor and the German shell hit it," Fosdick said.

None of his men was hurt. They were T/5 Donald J. Gan Caster, Green Bay, Wis.; T/5 Millard A. Richardson, Center Ridge, Ark.; Pvt. Glenn Young, Rockford, Ill.; Pfc. Frederick Dittmar, Oconomowoc, Wis.; Pvt. Sie Mills, Salt Gum, Ky.; Pfc. William Rochelle, New York, and Pvt. Cecil Jansen, Logan, Utah.

Woman Heads Welfare Body

RALEIGH —(AP)— Mrs. John Lee Wilson, Rockingham County welfare superintendent, was elected president of the North Carolina Association of County Superintendents of Public Welfare at the association's annual business meeting here yesterday.

Mrs. Wilson succeeds J. A. Best of Wayne County.

Chosen as vice-president was M. J. Lyman of Burke County. Mrs. J. S. Irk of Wake County was named secretary-treasurer.

Named as members of the executive committee were Mrs. Mary Burns Parker, Cleveland County; Rachel Payne Sugg, Greene County; E. Ferrell White, Cabarrus County; and J. R. Raper, Hertford County. O. C. Reynolds, Richmond County welfare head, was chairman of the nominating committee.

Mrs. Wilson was vice-president of the association this year and Mrs. Kirk succeeded Clyde Norcom of Alamance County.

The county welfare heads held their business session and dinner meeting as a prelude to the opening here tomorrow of the 25th annual Public Welfare Institute.

Speaking at the meeting of superintendents, Dr. Ellen Winston, State Superintendent of Welfare and Charities, said that the State's welfare program "must be one of wholehearted co-operation between the State and each of the 100 county departments."

"If one county has a strong program it strengthens the entire State program. On the other hand, the whole program lags if one county lags."

Dr. Winston said the State Department would ask the 1945 Legislature to change its official title to the State Board of Public Welfare instead of the present one. This would be the first change in name for the department since 1917, she said.