THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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Prodigal

Have Football Hearts Changed At Carolina?

The University of North Carolina, having been "released" of its obligation to Coach Ray Wolf, is apparently laying plans for a post-war football boom. In the present indefinite state of affairs, one cannot safely predict the name of Wolf's successor. But the case of Carl Snavely's reported candidacy is a strange one. Mr. Snavely left Chapel Hill under something of a cloud. He had made some enemies in high places, he had blundered in the matter of public relations. He left with a reputation as a good football coach, but also as something of a hard case.

Mr. Snavely, if he returns to Chapel Hill, will be leaving $12,000 a year job for a considerably smaller one. He will also be leaving rich Cornell, where it is reported his departure will not cause widespread grief. When he left Carolina, he traded a $8,000 job for an $8,000 job. There was some bickering as he left—for example his claim that the Athletic Association owed him about $500. Will that debt be cleared, if he returns?

Mr. Snavely is the "misquoted" champion of the sporting world, perhaps for all time. There was the memorable occasion when 40 members of Chapel Hill's Rotary Club applauded his statement that Andy Bershak was the greatest end he ever coached—which was quickly denied when an Associated Press executive recalled that he'd made the same statement concerning the Cornell star, Brud Holland. On that occasion Bob Madry, the University publicist, considered a suit against Mr. Snavely.

From Cornell, the word from Snavely is that the whole proposal that he may return to Carolina is a pipedream, and that it's the most astonishing news he's heard. But there have been quick changes in the heavely life ere this. Perhaps Mr. Snavely is, as many fellow coaches have said, the best football coach in the country. He is also distinguished in other ways—though it is likely that none of these dampens the ardor of alumni who seek only a winning football team.

If Mr. Snavely returns the football public will be sorely put to it to forget the occasion of the 1935 Duke-Carolina game, when Mr. Snavely made the unfortunate accusation that Duke had won by use of motion pictures—and was officially halted in his coaching from the bench after a protest from Wallace Wade. There was also the Snisak affair at Carolina, in which Mr. Snavely denied all knowledge of the player's former performance at another college.

But perhaps, if Mr. Snavely does return, he will be happier in Chapel Hill. The Graham Plan is gone, and though Southern Conference football practices are scarcely ideal, they are at least more open concerning subsidization than in the past. And, if gridiron victories are of greater importance than public relations in general, perhaps it would be a sweet reunion.

Medicine

People Want A Change, But Are Conservative

In the front rank of American problems for the future stands medical care. Here, the whole great battle of private enterprise *versus* Federal control is involved. There is recognition on all sides that there must be some means whereby all people may be given proper medical care at lower cost than at present. But past that point there is fierce debate. The Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill, proposing a virtual medical dictatorship in order to benefit the masses, meets with little favor. There must be some better way.

A study by the National Physicians Committee, made by the reputable Opinion Research Corporation, shows that only 16 per cent of the American people favor a six percent payroll deduction for the purpose of providing Federal medical care and hospitalization. But 63 per cent of the people think there should be an easier method of paying medical and hospital costs. And there is the vital factor.

A clear majority speaks against the present system, as offered by private medical practice. And only a tiny minority speaks for tight Federal control. Somewhere between, then, is the hope for the future of American medicine and hospital care. Somehow, we must avoid the dangers of centralized control which are conjured up by most men when they speak of socialized medicine. But there is a definite responsibility upon the medical profession to offer an alternative, soon.

Such steps as have been taken in planning the new state hospital at Chapel Hill—the result of the aggressiveness of medical men—lead in the right direction. If this becomes a trend, then the average American will receive the benefits he thinks he is due, and there will be precious little support for a system of Federal control.

Red Cross

It Topped Its Goal, But Too Few Helped

Mecklenburg County, though it has overreached its Red Cross goal in an eleventh-hour burst of energy, has already indicated unwillingness to bear its share of a vital burden for war. At yesterday's report (though the figures have doubtless risen somewhat since) only 19,000 Mecklenburgers had added in the Red Cross membership drive—or about one in eight. That, despite the greater need this year, compares unfavorably with last year's relative figure of 37,000—or one in five.

This reluctance to answer the Red Cross call on the part of about 130,000 residents of the county—though surely we cannot expect 100 per cent contribution—is difficult to understand in the light of another statistic. More than 13,000 men from Mecklenburg were in service at the last official report some months ago.

One would have supposed that at least those families with men in service would respond to the call for aid to fighting men—and about 90 per cent of Red Cross service is directed to them. But for some reason the burden fell on fewer citizens this year. We think this is to be remembered, even though the goal was topped in the end with a thumping total.

Puerto Rico

Two Visitors Agree As To Its Ailments

We find a remarkable little trend in the local news of the week. Two speakers who came to Charlotte on successive days, representing vastly different points of view and occupying positions which are entirely unrelated, hammered away at one theme during the course of their talks. Dr. Mark A. Dawber of the Home Missions Council of America, a Protestant group supported by 21 denominations, and Robert Wiatt, the regional director of Young Republicans, were the speakers.

It happened that each saw fit to tackle the vexing problem of Puerto Rico before their audiences. Dr. Dawber appeared first, and advocated a return of the land in that benighted island to the people, said that it should be bought from the three American corporations which now hold it. He added that it was strange that there were ships available to bring Puerto Rican rum to the United States, but no ships available to take food to the hungry people of the island.

Mr. Wiatt, as a member of a political party, took a similar view. He spoke for giving Puerto Rico statehood status, for building modern roads and giving the island modern conveniences, for removing it from one-man control, and for wresting its industries away from tight American control. He spoke particularly of the dominant rum industry, partly owned by Rex Tugwell and Harold Ickes.

With two such protests from two such men of widely divergent views, the similarity of the statements is significant. If the problem is fairly stated, as one would expect in this instance, the course of U. S. action in the case should be clear to all.

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON

MUCH-LOVED octogenarian Senator Carter Glass received a visit recently from his old friend Jim Farley. The Virginia statesman, who has served in the House, the Senate and as Secretary of the Treasury for almost half a century, is not in good health but, in pajamas and bathrobe, received Farley.

In the Senator's lap, as he talked, was a letter on White House stationery. Jim Farley could not help but notice the stationery, but naturally did not try to pry into the contents of the letter.

It was from Jim's one-time friend and chief, Franklin Roosevelt. And it was on a subject regarding which Jim and Carter Glass vigorously disagree—the tax veto. After the President had vetoed the tax bill, with consequent Barkley fireworks, Senator Glass phoned the White House.

"Tell the President," he told Jimmy Byrnes, "that he not only had the Constitutional right to veto the tax bill, but it was his Constitutional duty to veto a bill as inadequate as this one."

In reply, the President wrote a warm letter of thanks to the 84-year-old Senator. This was the letter which lay in Glass's lap when Jim Farley called.

Parachute Mess

Last week the Washington Merry-Go-Round revealed that the parachute now being used by American fliers was dangerous compared with the British single-release type and that Brig. Gen. Newton Longfellow of the U. S. Eighth Air Force in England had cabled Washington that "anything but a quick release harness is murderous."

Today, this column can further reveal that the Justice Department and Army Air Forces are moving in on this situation rapidly, and that one employee at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, who was connected with the procurement of parachutes, is under investigation. He has resigned from Wright Field under pressure.

Also the Air Forces have recently ordered 2,500 of the single-release British type of parachute. This permits the flier to free himself of the chute immediately after he lands, thus avoiding the danger of being dragged along the ground or if he lands in water of drowning. The parachute used in most Army planes has three release points. This means that, when a paratrooper hits the ground, he has to release the harness at three different points and, if he fumbles on one of them, he cannot get free at all.

One Army explanation for using this type of parachute is that a flier sits on it, so that it takes up no room in the cramped quarters of the plane. The British type of parachute (originally developed in this country) gets in the way when the flier is seated in his plane. Nevertheless, U. S. fliers value the single release so highly that almost every American aviator arriving in England tries to beg, borrow or steal a parachute of the British type.

Note—The 2,500 new single-release parachutes recently ordered are only a start compared with the approximately 350,000 fliers in the Air Forces.

Lovett Fired

Secretary of the Interior Ickes just managed to beat the House Appropriations Committee to the punch the other day in announcing the resignation of elderly, benign Robert M. Lovett as executive assistant to the Governor of the Virgin Islands. Lovett, one of the most controversial figures in the Government, was voted out of his job by Congress after an adverse report by the Dies Committee because he belonged to certain liberal organizations.

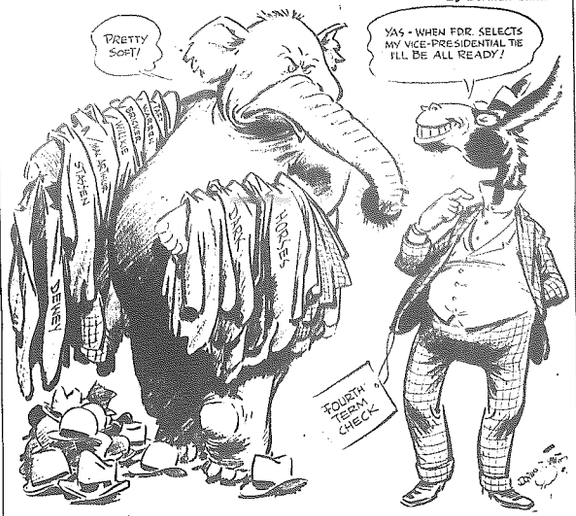
However, Ickes refused to fire Lovett—until the other day. He kept him on the job in the Virgin Islands in order to give Lovett a chance to make a test case before the Court of Claims or the U. S. Supreme Court as to whether or not Congress has a right to interfere with the President's appointments of executive officers. Last week, the House Appropriations Committee was all set to raise another rumpus with Ickes when they met behind closed doors. In fact, one of the first questions asked of Ickes was whether Lovett was still on his payroll.

"If you had asked me that question at nine o'clock," replied Secretary Ickes, with a twinkle in his eye, "I would not have been able to tell you. But the first thing I did when I arrived at the office this morning was to look up Lovett's status. When I found he was still employed in the Virgin Islands, I immediately dictated a request for his resignation."

Ickes went on to explain that he had intended for Lovett to remain on the payroll only long enough to give him a chance to test the case in court, and had not realized he was still on the payroll. Lovett is much-beloved by Virgin Island natives, who offered to raise funds from their local government to pay his salary. However, he is not beloved by Governor Charles Harwood, old political friend of FDR. It is considered significant that the House Appropriations Committee heckled Ickes on Lovett just a few days after Governor Harwood arrived on one of his many trips to Washington.

Getting Dressed For The Campaign Blowout

—By Dorman Smith



For Italian Unity

By Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON

THE old isolationist called up from Florida to report with high glee what had happened to the Italian vote. Roosevelt, he said, had lost it.

"Now take my barber . . ." he began.

It seems that his barber is an Italian who has always been strong for FDR. In fact, he was so loyal to the New Deal that the old Roosevelt-hater didn't dare to air his views when he was being shaved even though the two men had known each other for years. But all that was changed after the President announced that one-third of the Italian Fleet would eventually go to Soviet Russia. Then, my friend reported, he didn't dare to breath FDR's name because it was bound to start such a furious rage.

There are times at his press conference when Roosevelt drops a rock into the still pool with seemingly little or no awareness of how far the resulting splash will travel. That was true of his statement about the Italian Fleet. A reporter reminded him that he had spoken some time before of a request from Mr. Stalin. Could he say anything more about that? Yes, said the President, he concerned the Italian Fleet and the share of it that should go to Russia.

Altogether, I don't suppose he devoted more than three minutes of the conference to the subject. I felt he was trying to say that any present disposition of the fleet would be for war purposes only; that he did not mean to give the idea the ships were being divided up as permanent booty of war. This last, however, was not sufficiently clear. The news stories out of the conference announced that Italy's war vessels were to be divided up with one-third to go to Russia.

That splash washed up on every shore throughout the world. And the ripples have not yet subsided.

It came as a complete surprise to the command in the Mediterranean. The telecommunications system between Naples, Algiers, London and Washington hummed with "secret" and "highly secret" messages. What did it mean? Our own staff here was caught almost as flat-footed. British naval commanders assistiating Italian Fleet units in the Mediterranean were immediately confronted with new troubles. The news produced something like a sitdown strike which should have surprised no one.

The Germans promptly made propaganda use of the announcement throughout Nazi-occupied Italy. Every radio from Rome northward has been blared with news with Nazi embellishments—that one-third of Italy's warships were to be handed over to the "Reds."

In Parliament, Prime Minister Churchill was badgered into saying that no change was contemplated in the arrangement with the Italian naval authorities under which "the Italian ships and their crews take part in the common struggle against the enemy in the theaters where they now operate." And the following day, Friday, Roosevelt had to try to reconcile the two statements. They meant the same thing, he said, showing considerable irritation with the press.

The Strange Patriot

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK

THERE is a certain special kind of fellow at large in this fair democracy who, I think, by now needs a treatment. He goes by many names. Sometimes he is a radio commentator. Sometimes he is a foreign correspondent. He turns up in Government offices, too. He tends to hang around the State Department, the way pigeons tend to congregate near the Capitol.

The best way to describe his mind is that he feels Spain is, on the whole, making very satisfactory progress toward democracy, while he shudders to think how closely the Government of the United States is trending toward totalitarianism.

When he visits Madrid, he finds all sorts of signs that Spain is leaving fascism behind and is groping its way to human freedom and the better life. He has it from a cousin of a corporal who once served under Franco that Franco really hates the Spanish Phalanx. He reports such incidents as that the other day Franco was reading a Phalangist newspaper, and, would you believe it, tossed it into a wastebasket. This indicates clearly that the Phalanx is on its way out.

But when he comes to Washington, oh, woe. The cheery optimism on behalf of democracy which filled him in Madrid quite vanishes. In Washington he discovers that the Federal Government wants all the soldiers to vote. This strikes him as clearly a dangerous sign of vanishing respect of democracy. In fact most of the portents and indications he sees in Washington fill him with gloom.

He means that the President sneezed the other day when someone mentioned Congress, and he manages to report these melancholy discoveries both in a bated breath and at the top of his voice; not an easy manner to cultivate, but he cultivates it.

This fellow has a deep cynical streak in him, which is, strangely enough touched off only in the capital of his own country. He thinks that Washington, where a Congress and President, working together though without much mutual love, have managed to organize and equip the greatest army in our history, is a mess. He sees the loathsome specter of collectivist dictatorship everywhere in the capital, and he reminds you that it is not without significance that the President has vetoed two bills this Winter, whereas everybody knows that under the Democratic way of life vetoes are absolutely illegal, or, oops, anyway, arrogant.

"If you sue the old boy for breach of promise, these letters will crowd the war off the front page for one edition at least!"

Everyday Counselor

By Rev. Herbert Spaugh

A NEW American unity, a new demonstration of American strength is being brought about through the agony and suffering of this war. May God grant that these lessons learned at such terrible cost may be remembered. From a correspondent comes "A Study in American Strength," by H. J. Phillips, reprinted from The New York Sun.

"Three American airmen, Edward Mallory Vogel, Tennessee; Izzie Goldberg, the Bronx, N. Y.; and Edwin J. Sipowski, Waukegan, Ill.; killed in a take-off in San Juan Harbor, were buried side by side, with a Protestant chaplain, a Roman Catholic priest and a rabbi officiating. The flag for which they fought flew over them."

A chaplain, a priest and a rabbi—
Protestant—Catholic—Jew—
Three Yanks in three simple caskets—

Three colors, red, white and blue.

A hush on a tropic island
as notes from a bugle fall—
Three rituals slowly chanted—
Three faiths in a common call:

A lad from the Bronx; another
Who joined up in Tennessee;
A third one from far Waukegan—
A typical bunch, those three!

A crash in a naval airplane . . .
A rush to its crumpled side . . .
And near by Old Glory marking
The reason the trio died.

They answered a call to duty
From church and from synagogue—
From hillside and teeming city . . .
Three names in a naval log!

Each raised in his separate concepts—
Each having his form to pray—
But all for a faith triumphant
When rituals fade away!

A prayer in Latin phrases—
And one with more ancient lore;
A Protestant simple service—
All one on a distant shore!

"Qui tollis peccata mundi" . . .
And, "Enter ye unto rest" . . .
A Blessing from ancient Moses . . .
For three who had met the test!

This is the story mighty
Making our sinews strong;
Boys from the many altars
Warring on one great wrong!

This is the nation's power,
This is its suit of mail;
Land where each narrow bigot
Knows that he can't prevail!

Simple War Aim?

By Dorothy Thompson

ALTHOUGH pacifism is no answer to the horrors and destruction of war, the absence of a positive peace policy is deeply troubling.

Those who ask for it are told, "First we must get on with winning the war" — as though war were something waged for its own sake, and victory something with a meaning in itself. But the moment a war passes out of the purely defensive stage the mind cannot accept this. Then one is bound to ask, "For what purpose do we push this struggle on to the complete destruction of the enemy? What is the meaning of 'unconditional surrender'? Does not the 'unconditional' apply to ourselves as well as to the enemy? Will not the conditions imposed affect the future of the world and therefore our own?"

"Unconditional surrender" is a simple phrase but a complicated matter. In the case of Finland, both Russia and the Western world are concerned. The West would not welcome the permanent removal of Finland from the society of nations and our pressure on Finland to accept terms is influenced by fear that the most favorable opportunity may be lost.

Italy has unconditionally surrendered, and months later we have no idea what it means. It has not meant peace for Italy; it has not meant a democratic evolution in those parts occupied by us. It has meant exactly what Mr. Churchill in his speech of last July 27 said was urgently to be avoided.

"We do not seek . . . to find ourselves without any authorities with whom to deal. By so doing we should lay upon our armies and our war effort the burden of occupying mile by mile the entire country . . . an immense task of garrisoning, policing, and administering would be thrown upon us involving a grievous expenditure of power . . . and time. We must be careful not to get ourselves into the . . . position into which Germans have blundered . . . namely of having to hold down and administer in detail . . . by a system of Gauleiters the entire life of a very large population, thereby becoming responsible for their upkeep and well-being."

Furthermore, we do not know the reason for the military campaign in Italy. "The conquest of Sicily freed the Mediterranean — an essential move. When the mainland was invaded in September, there were two possibilities either that we intended to conquer Italy to the Po Valley, in which case we would have engaged the great bulk of the western German armies, or, to take only Southern Italy as preface to forcing a way to the Balkans. It was and still is not understandable why we should wish to capture Rome as an ultimate military aim.

The idea that Rome should be conquered inch by inch, with the destruction of the shrine of Catholic Christendom, and the art treasury of Western man, disturbs us profoundly because we do not understand the reason for it. Militarily it is impossible to see what will have changed when we reach Rome. We can pin down as many German divisions below Rome as above it. Only if we intend to move north and take the whole of Italy does it make military sense. But we cannot be planning that, and, at the same time, a vast invasion from the British Isles.

According to a dispatch from Washington by Frank Kelley on March 11, we are also planning what amounts to the "unconditional surrender" of France. Of course we don't say so. But Mr. Kelley claims to know that the President and the War Department have decided to place the entire responsibility for recognizing this or that French political movement in the hands of Gen. Eisenhower. In no case will any committee—including de Gaulle's—be recognized even as a provisional government for the whole of France. "Such power may be given to other factions and groups in other parts of France."

Under these conditions the French Committee of National Liberation will have even less authority than the Badoglio government. The most delicate political matters are to be left to a great general claiming only military prowess and without mandate to become defacto ruler of an allied country. If Mr. Kelly's dispatch is correct, this is only admission that Allied political authorities have been unable to reach agreement and are passing the buck to the Army. We foresee for France what Mr. Churchill correctly feared might happen in Italy.

To ask one's own mind, on top of all this, what "unconditional surrender" might mean in Germany is to draw a complete blank. For in this case we cannot pass the responsibility solely to Gen. Eisenhower. There will be another general involved—a Russian.

A war can only successfully be conducted with a political aim. Until we know what kind of a Europe we wish to see constructed and what kind of a Europe it is possible to construct, we shall be fighting in the dark. War is an instrument of political policy—not political policy an instrument of war. "Unconditional Surrender" either means something that we do not know, or it is meaningless.

Convicted In Spy Case

WASHINGTON — Conviction of Edward J. Hoffert (left), assistant to Dr. Fred W. Thomas, Department of Agriculture, for violating the Espionage Act by giving information on war production and troop movements and impeding the U. S. in obtaining evidence of violations of the espionage act, was announced by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as the leader of the spy ring.

Walter Nelson, attorney for Dr. Thomas, announced he would appeal from the sentence and also would ask again for a review of the trial. Last week Judge Mosnet denied a petition for a new trial.

In passing sentence Judge Mosnet said: "I haven't the slightest doubt your sympathies are with the Nazis in Germany. This is tragic for you and your family but you should have thought of that."

Dr. Thomas was unemotional at the sentence. His only words to the court were "I am not guilty."

"Y" Membership Drive Planned

The annual membership drive of the YMCA, Second Street branch will begin April 3, according to an announcement today by Fred Williams, membership chairman. The goal is 1,000 members, with renewals to be included in that number. Slight changes in the membership fee will be made, to insure a better program and to conform with national association standards.

Last year a substantial increase in the number of members was noted. The drive at this time is built around the 100th anniversary of the "Y," and the Second Street's branch for the campaign will be "The YMCA Serves the Community."

Davidson Fraternity Elects New Officers

DAVIDSON — The Omega chapter at Davidson College, of Sigma Delta Pi, National Spanish Fraternity, met last night in Chambers Building and elected officers for the current year.

The new president is John E. Murray, a senior of Concord. James F. Alexander of Charlotte, was chosen as vice-president. Other officers elected are: Leon R. Drake Jr. of Richmond, Va., treasurer and Kurt L. Weill of Waynesville, secretary.

The Sigma Delta Pi chapter at Davidson was founded in 1919. The membership includes the following from the faculty: Professors F. L. Blythe, F. K. Fleagle and Dr. A. V. Goldiere.

Meetings are held every second and fourth Tuesday in the month.

"He's been spouting for half an hour already—I thought he said he was introducing a speaker who 'needed no introduction' . . ."