THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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New Angle

Now We're Told Japan Is A Clay-Footed Power

Conditioned by a tremendous barrage of propaganda for almost two and a half years as the terrific and bloody task ahead of us in this war, the American public has recently been surprised by two returning Associated Press reporters. One, fresh from German hands, told us that the Atlantic Wall was a myth, and hinted that Europe was pretty poorly defended, all in all. Now another, returning from the Pacific, says that Japan is a minor league power, playing a grand bluff, and operating on a shoestring.

The two stories, welcome though to American ears, are hard to reconcile with what we have been told time and again, both in communiques from the battlefronts, and in official pronouncements from Washington. Our task may be getting easier in the Pacific as we progress; it certainly hopes so, after the expending of so much effort and so many lives. We should be making headway. But the idea that we will crush Japan easily and quickly, once we are able to send major forces into the Pacific, is a little hard to swallow.

The best military information publicly available is that Japan, desperately short of shipping and with her air power on the decline, still holds a great advantage over us in the war of distances. She may be expected to lose every decisive battle from now until the end of the war, but, so we have been told time and again, there is a long, hard and bloody road ahead of us before the Pacific islands are cleaned up, China and Burma cleared, and the home empire is conquered.

This latest story hints, as others have in the past, that the author resents our primary attention to the European theater. Between the lines is an intimation that he has come home imbued with the notion (perhaps from our commanders) that the Pacific front should be given higher priority. The story raises the hope that the Philippines will soon be retaken, and that the pounding of Japan proper will follow shortly. But this is strictly a minority report. The public will do well to let developments take their own course.

Soft Peace?

Labor Delegates Vote For Revenge On Nazis

The battle of moral principles concerning the war guilt of the German people entered a new quarter last week, in a heated session of the International Labor Conference. The realists won, overwhelmingly. Only two tremulous votes (by an American labor representative and an Australian worker) were cast for a soft, sweet treatment of the German populace after victory. All others (Russia was abstaining thunderously voted to hold the German people responsible for their share of guilt in this war—and for atrocities as well as starting the war of aggression.

The question eased into the preferences with consideration of the future of German trade unions in the post-war days ahead. Most of the delegates agreed that this question must be left until the time comes, so that some method of installing really free unions might be worked out. Further, many a neutral suggested that no steps could be taken in the absence of the Russians. There was a tendency to wait and see, and to ask the advice of the Big Four, before making a single recommendation.

Here, there is wisdom. It is obvious that the people of Germany, who have twice given almost inhuman support to modern world wars, are as guilty as their leaders. Perhaps no other populace ever bore such murderous gardens, while fighting so bravely, as the Germans of today. Not only do they bear a very certain guilt; they bear it with defiance. The Allied world is bound to make something of it. The hope of this ILO decision that the Allied leadership will show wisdom, rather than sloppy-pamby sentiment, in settling the peace. It is an indication that we might be able to withstand the pleas of the enemy nation, once its defeat has become certain. If this resolution gives us heart to mete out the deserved punishment, it will have contributed to peace and progress in our world.

The Oracle

State Convention Liked Cherry, But The Public

There now flares a moderately heated debate—at least in Raleigh, and likely throughout the State—as to the value of the Democratic Convention as a barometer of North Carolina politics. Supporters of Major Gregg Cherry are giving vent to cheers because of the obvious support for their candidate at last week's convention. It was apparent that the Convention was pretty well organized for the Major, and that might be taken as a shadow of coming events.

Dr. Ralph McDonald's supporters, on the other hand, can call to mind the fact that the Convention is almost uniformly made up of professional politicians, and that this is likely to boomerang to their advantage. There is also the record, which shows that Convention support for Max Gardner in 1920 was followed by the election of Cameron Morrison. On the other hand, enthusiasm generated for Governor Broughton in the 1940 Convention paid off on election day.

There's no guessing as to the meaning of all those red cherries exhibited last week in Raleigh. They may be only another sign that such sessions do not faithfully reflect the sentiment of the people; or, they may indicate the degree to which the Cherry cause is organized, and forecast victory. Wise observers, as usual, will wait and see.

Revelation

Byrdmen Now Plump For GOP, A Slim Hope

What we have suspected from the start of the Byrd-For-President drive became obvious this week: the mutineers are more Roosevelt enemies than Byrd friends. They will turn to the Republicans in preference to suffering silently under Term Four. The Grand Mufti of the Byrd forces, John U. Barr of New Orleans, let the cat out of the bag officially with his cheerful prediction that Florida and other Southern states would go Republican in November.

He would seem to have made another poor guess, on the face of things, but the important fact is that Barr cried, "Our people are set, and with the normally Republican vote added, the vote in Florida will be at least 60 per cent anti-New Deal." His people, one must presume from this, are going to string along with any attacking force whatever, and draw no line at Republicanism.

This, therefore, is evidence that this Byrd movement, though inspired by a sincere distrust of the Roosevelt regime, was not quite honest with the public. It spoke of Byrd and perhaps genuinely admired the distinguished Virginia Senator—but the name meant little or nothing. This was revolt, and not the espousal of the Byrd cause. This becomes the latest word on a trend that began in Greensboro some weeks ago, when Julian Price arose in a Byrd meeting to declare that the group must not announce its intention of joining the Republicans—even though it was going to do so. "Even if we're lying," Mr. Price said, "let's not talk of bolting the Democratic Party."

Mr. Barr chose not to heed the Price advice. He's talking GOP because that appears to be the only hope for his cause. Well, if he's down to that in the South, he hasn't a real hope to his name. He whistles a pretty tune in the dark.

Thousands of tons of sugar are still left annually in the bottoms of tea cups, says an apostle of thrift. Not only is this waste but it confounds the gypsy reader.

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON

Note:—This is the inside reason why California's Democratic Attorney General, Bob Kenny, has sped Eastward. Ostensibly, he wants to be heard on the new U. S.-Mexican treaty. Actually, friends are proposing him as the keynoter at the Chicago Democratic convention. Some even go so far as to propose him as Vice Presidential candidate with FDR—if the latter runs.

WORD leaking out from some of the Dewey advisers is that, after a careful survey of the entire country, they figure their candidate can win against FDR by himself with seventeen electoral votes to spare. If Dewey can carry California. This estimate gives to Roosevelt all of the Border States, including also the South, plus Washington and Utah. On the other hand, Dewey forces expect to carry all of New England, most of the Middle West, plus Pennsylvania. New York is doubtful.

However, both Democrats and Republicans frankly admit that California is going to be one of the keyest states in the Union. They remember how it was California; plus the trace-jumping of Hiram Johnson, which re-elected Woodrow Wilson in 1916 after Charles Evans Hughes went to bed thinking he was President-elect.

They remember too how Hiram Johnson, a Republican, again helped to throw the election to a Democrat—Roosevelt—in 1932. They also know that it was a heavy Democratic vote for Republican Warren that made him Governor in 1942. In fact, California is the State in the Union that is nearest to being without a two-party system. Candidates run on both tickets and get votes from both parties.

The Dewey forces know that FDR is still a powerful figure in California. But they also figure that Warren, if on the Republican ticket, could carry the state for Dewey. Democratic leaders, on the other hand, say that Governor Warren has lost his popularity, could not deliver for Dewey. At any rate, the Far West is being rediscovered by the political East for the first time since Marshall struck gold in 1849.

"At least, it cannot be classified as a supporter of the Administration. In fact, it is considered by some to be on the anti-New Deal side."

There was loud laughter from the galleries when GOP Senator Styles Bridges of New Hampshire impishly interposed: "I am glad the gentleman is getting into that category."

"Oh, at one time or another, I get into all categories," blithely responded Barkley, who has been championing Administration policies with his old, accustomed vigor since his brief rebellion against Roosevelt's veto of the tax bill.

Felix Dissents

You won't get any one on the Supreme Court to talk about it, but Justice Felix Frankfurter is in the doghouse with Chief Justice Stone when it comes to writing opinions for the court. Frankfurter has written only five opinions for the court this year, whereas last year he wrote nine. The number of opinions each Justice writes for the court is up to the Chief Justice, and word from the cloistered marble sanctuary is that Stone thinks Frankfurter is too slow. He has been asked to write several opinions assigned him.

However, he seems to have plenty of time to write dissents. Last year, Frankfurter's score was ten dissents, while this year it had already reached eleven before the court met last week.

Mobile Barkley

During the tempestuous Senate debate on the seizure of Montgomery Ward and Company, Democratic Leader Alben Barkley of Kentucky quoted an editorial in the Philadelphia Bulletin refuting anti-administration protests that the Government was adopting the strong-arm tactics of totalitarian powers.

"This paper from which I quote is a Republican paper, I understand," declared Barkley.

Sedition Antics

The most patient man in the world is presiding over the "mass sedition" trial in the Federal District Court here. He is painstaking, square-shooting Chief Justice Edward C. Eicher, who is recognized by the legal profession as absolutely fair and who has been leaning over backward to give the 30 indicted defendants their full day in court.

However, the defendants are demanding more than that. So brazen are some of them in their tactics to delay the trial, that they boastfully refer to themselves as "monkey wrenches from heaven," because, they say, there is always one among them capable of "pulling something" to cause another delay.

Here is an example of what the patient Justice Eicher has had to put up with. Whenever a defense motion has been denied, Charles B. Hudson of Omaha, Nebraska, publisher of a pro-Fascist news letter, "America in Danger," has turned and chanted to reporters: **"Railroad! Railroad! Toot-toot-toot!"**

"That's right, Senator, since you've been in office the farmers in this district have been prospering—thanks to a good rain or two at the right time!"

Everyday Counselor

By Rev. Herbert Spaugh

A VESSEL has a tendency to partake of the flavor of its contents. A perfume bottle will retain the aroma of the perfume long after it has been emptied. So also will the odor of a bitter acid remain in the vessel after the acid is gone. Furthermore, if left in certain vessels, the acid will actually eat into them.

It is so with our lives. We cannot but be affected by the emotions which take possession of us from time to time; our lives take flavor from them. Often our whole nature and disposition is determined by them.

Jealousy, suspicion, bitterness, hatred are powerful and deadly acids which if allowed to remain in our minds and hearts will eat into our lives, destroy our happiness, impair and destroy our health. This has been one of the startling discoveries of modern psychiatry. A whole host of physical ailments in many people have been discovered to be functional due to unbalanced living. If allowed to continue they become organic and serious physical results follow and surgery frequently becomes necessary.

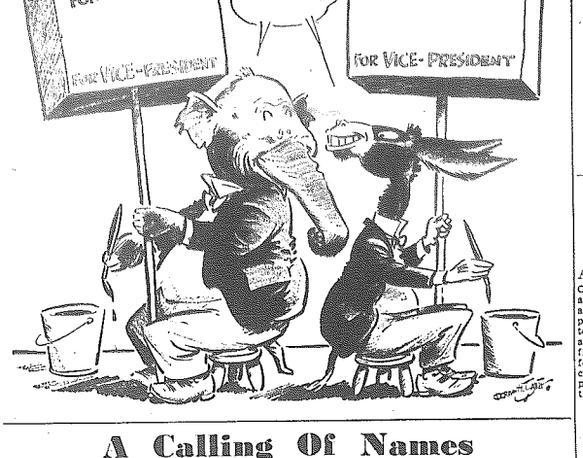
In the preface to Dr. Stanley Jones' book, "Is the Kingdom of God Realism," the chief surgeon of Clifton Springs Sanatorium observes that the majority of cases which have come to him for surgery have back of them a history of faulty mental and spiritual attitudes. Everyone ought to read this book.

The other day a friend was telling me how he woke up one day to the fact that his entire life was being ruined by nursing a grievance against a man whom he had felt had wronged him. He nursed that grievance until it became a grudge, then a consuming hatred. He lay awake at night imagining the terrible things he would do to this man if he once got him in his power. Then one day there fell into his hands a little study book on the Lord's Prayer which led him to realize the full meaning of "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." He tore that hatred out of his life, put it away, found new peace, new happiness, new health.

So also do the beautiful emotions in life, simple emotions, such as love, kindness, appreciation, sympathy, flavor and sweeten a life and lead it into new beauty and happiness.

All Done But Fillings In The Blanks

—By Dorman Smith



A Calling Of Names

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK

IT does not do for politicians to speak a private language. The campaigns against Senators Hill and Pepper, in Alabama and Florida, seem to have been conducted in pure Esperanto. Well-heeled politicians went to work in both States against these two pro-Administration Senators. Florida and Alabama were swamped with violent anti-New Deal literature. Hill and Pepper were called "rubber stamps;" much was made of the Roosevelt "dictatorship;" and, by way of letting the voters rest their minds from these high philosophical concepts, there was a wholesale distribution of photographs of Eleanor conversing with Negroes.

The voters looked this stuff over, and seem to have decided it was corn. That is strange, because certain editorial and journalistic circles, this material is practically sure - fire. An uncomplimentary reference to "rubber stamps" or to Eleanor is good, in some quarters, for a yak-yak, or even a boff.

I have seen a bright young anti-New Dealer utter the words "alphabet soup," with a coy and perky smile, and that has been quite enough to make an audience explode into absolutely helpless laughter, its eyes swimming and its sides quivering. Now we face the question of why this same material has laid an egg in Dixie.

Well, it's almost always that way with family jokes; they're not very funny outside the family. Hill and Pepper have been triumphantly renominated in Democratic primaries, after running against every Roosevelt joke in the book, and all Dixmoor in the world. The material which dully convulses smoking cars from one end of the country to the other was tried out in Florida and Alabama, and the people of these States seem to have wondered what those men were talking about.

Even Joe Starnes of Alabama has been knocked out of Congress, and Joe is a big private-language fellow. Five years ago, during a Congressional investigation of the Federal Theater, someone brought up the name of the great Elizabethan, Christopher Marlowe. Joe's eyes opened wide at that, and he instantly demanded to know whether Chris was a Communist. That gives you some measure of the world in which Joe has operated, the private world of epithets and goblins.

Well, Joe isn't going to be with us in the House of Representatives any more. He knows more anti-Roosevelt cracks than almost anybody in the country, but from now on his speeches will be the quacking of a lame duck, the least impressive noise in politics. Joe will take his private language back to private life. His vast store of anti - Roosevelt learning becomes one of those secret little sciences which life has passed by, like alchemy.

The Planning Industry

By Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON

IF all the post-war planners were laid end to end they would reach three times around the moon with enough left over to fill every hotel ballroom in America. I, too, am part of the an industry in itself and may help—if it can be carried into the post-war period—to take up the industrial slack. Exaggeration to one side, this is a healthy thing. That is. It's healthy so long as the plans stay somewhere near reality.

Too often post-war planning goes off into the stratosphere. Earnest seekers after truth at three course luncheons are given visions of a sky spangled with pink and blue plastic helicopters. If you're too barbarous for the helicopter, you can zip through the countryside in a 100-mile an hour car shaped like a rocket from Mars.

Another school of post-war planners paint a picture that is wholly black. They see the country staggering to ruin under the weight of mass employment. What is too often assumed in all this talk of post-war planning is that we have infinite time in which to convert a new heaven and a new earth. Actually we're sitting at the moment in the unnatural stillness at the center of the tornado. Peace may break out and precipitate confusion and chaos around us.

That is why it is good news that the Senate passed a contract termination bill on Thursday. This was a necessary foundation step for everything which must follow. It's only a beginning, of course. Organized labor was insistent that the broader aspects of a demobilization program be incorporated in the contract bill. What labor feared was that contract termination would be rushed through and then everything else forgotten. And there's reason to be fearful of just that.

On the floor of the Senate, however, both Senator George and Senator Murray pledged themselves to work for the steps which must follow. It's up to them to keep their word and see that all proper precautions are taken to safeguard the millions who will go through a transitional period of idleness. The fact is that Congress has delayed too long in taking the initial step that will clear the orders and war machinery out of the big industrial plants and make way for peacetime production. Much abuse has been heaped on the Baruch plan for what it didn't do.

The author of that plan deliberately limited the scope of his assignment. His report, which took care of certain specific problems, should now be supplemented by other reports from men who will deal in concrete terms with housing, with public works, with unemployment. Perhaps the mistake was to assume the Baruch report would be an all-inclusive pudding with at least one raisin for everybody.

El Salvador Head Quits

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador, (AP)—Gen. Maximiliano Hernandez Martinez has tendered his resignation as President of the Republic of El Salvador, effective today, with the announced hope of restoring order to this little country, ruled by a succession of dictators.

La Prensa Nico dispatch said Martinez would be succeeded by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

An announcement of the President's action, made yesterday, said the strike had created a grave situation and he had decided to step down in order to settle matters of state "in a decorous and constitutional manner in conformity with national interests."

Martinez' action was taken just a little more than a month after his Government put down a revolt in which 53 persons were killed and 134 wounded. Later the Government announced the execution of 25 persons.

Martinez succeeded to the Presidency of the country when President Arturo Araujo left in December, 1931. Six months remain of the six-year term to which he was elected in 1939.

El Salvador, a coffee - growing country, has an area of 13,176 square miles and next to Haiti is the smallest of the American republics. It has a population of 1,629,800.

The day after Pearl Harbor El Salvador declared war on Japan and four days later went to war with Germany.

Leahy Urged For Navy Head

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Strong sentiment for the appointment of Admiral William D. Leahy as Secretary of the Navy to succeed the late Frank Knox developed in Congress today and President Roosevelt may be urged soon to put the Navy entirely in professional hands by such a move.

Some members of the Senate and House Naval Affairs Committees, who declined to be quoted by name, said they felt that in time of war a professional navman ought to be in charge of the Department's affairs rather than a civilian. If an Admiral were Secretary, they added, there would be no grounds for the "civilian interference" complaints which they have received at times.

Leahy, former Chief of Naval Operations, now serves as Chief of Staff to the President for both the Army and Navy.

If Leahy is not the choice, most legislators think the place will go to Undersecretary James V. Forrestal, who has made a good impression on both Senate and House Committees.

Medical Society Seeks Official's Dismissal

LOS ANGELES—(AP)—The California Medical Association house of delegates has adopted a resolution asking its members to work for the dismissal of Dr. Morris Fishbein of Chicago as editor of The American Medical Association's Journal and Hygeia, a publication for laymen as well as physicians.

The resolution said in part: "Dr. Fishbein has assumed the position of the spokesman for American Medicine. But it is felt that he is not representing it properly to the American public."

Concluding its annual convention yesterday, the Association named as its president-elect Capt. P. K. Gilman, USNR, of San Francisco.

The Uprooted

By Dorothy Thompson

WASHINGTON

A FEW days ago, Percy J. Clarey, president of the Australian Council of Trade Unions declared at the meeting of the International Labor Organization in Philadelphia, that Australia, with a territory as large as the United States and a population of 7,000,000, would find it difficult at all times to defend herself unless she would reconsider after the war ends, her policy of strict immigration control.

Mr. Clarey therewith unrolled one of the great geo-political problems of the world and one of the most pressing of human postwar problems. The British Commonwealth of sovereign nations containing Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Canada, occupies 7,500,000 square miles in climates favorable for European settlement and contains in all populations of less than 31,000,000. New Zealand, for instance, climatically a paradise, covering 113,000 square miles, as large as Kansas and Indiana together, has a population of only 1,600,000, as contrasted with the 5,250,000 in these two American states.

The British Commonwealth apart from the United Kingdom, is two and a half times the area of the United States and has less than a fourth of its population. Estimates as to how many people these areas could absorb vary, but no one doubts that they could support many times the present inhabitants.

The relative feeling of weakness of the British, which repeatedly comes out in speeches such as the recent one of General Smuts, is founded on nothing but lack of population. In the English-speaking world there has been but one United States, and that phenomenon was created by generations of open immigration. Who doubts that that experiment of the nineteenth century can be repeated, and under more favorable circumstance on the basis of our experience.

Mr. Berle recently expressed some hardly veiled apprehensions regarding the internal, biological expansion of the peoples of the Soviet Union. For generations experts have been worrying about the declining white race. Meanwhile, exclusive of Russia, there are over three hundred million people crowded into that little peninsula of Asia, called Europe, millions of them anxious to found new homes elsewhere, yet with the outlets all but closed not only within the British Commonwealth but in Latin-America and other sparsely populated areas.

In this moment the discussion centers around the European Jews. The War Refugee Board, set up January 22nd, to rescue these and others in imminent danger of slaughter and to find havens, permanent or temporary for them somewhere, is dealing with the problem. Until the immigration quota of 22,000, still open for immigration into Palestine is exhausted, they will be sent there, and a Turkish ship, the S. S. Tari will shortly sail from Constanta to Turkey, carrying the first 1500. But thereafter temporary havens must be found elsewhere, and it has been suggested that since all action depends on U. S. leadership, we must also furnish an example, and our authorities will be asked to open camps, so-called free ports, for their temporary haven.

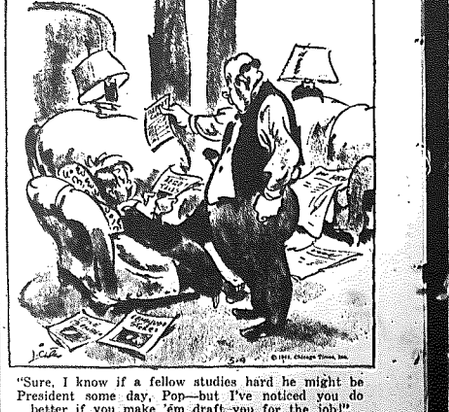
If these temporary havens for what are, in fact, enforced migrations, are simply internment camps, we will not be on our way toward any solution of the problem. But we could begin constructively to meet it. The Jewish problem, though the most acute, is only a small sector of the whole problem of mass migrations unexampled in centuries.

In the modern world all re-settlements involve a problem of re-training. New countries need people with a pioneering spirit and welcome in the first line those willing and able to till the soil. Old countries, on the other hand, have a surplus population in professional and business occupations and these are most inclined and encouraged to emigrate.

But the Palestinian experiment has decisively proved that people who have never been connected with the land, can and will retrain themselves to carry on a high and successful agriculture, provided that is the way opportunity and security lie, and provided colonization is based upon cooperative settlements.

I cannot see why temporary havens, here and elsewhere, should not be used immediately for such re-training. It ought to be possible to establish great cooperative farms, for training and practice in all the general and special skills connected with agriculture, including carpentering, painting, the mechanics necessary to maintain and repair farm machinery as well as village crafts. Opportunity ought to be opened for the inhabitants of such "havens" to support themselves. Individuals with such training in pioneering pursuits and crafts would find ready welcome in underpopulated countries, and find it easier to support themselves later in dignity.

The post-war period will demand imagination coupled with expert knowledge and of all the problems requiring both, the problem of again turning human beings from being social liabilities into social assets is the greatest. The earlier we begin to tackle it, the better.



"Sure, I know if a fellow studies hard he might be President some day, Pop—but I've noticed you do better if you make 'em draft you for the job!"