THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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Once More

Invasion In South Presages French Victory

The long-threatened invasion of Southern France by an Allied army brings almost to full cycle the shifting fortunes of war. For, with a big Nazi army encircled in a death trap to the North, and determined resistance in France apparently near an end, these new landings trumpet Hitler's doom in the West—and speed it considerably. Able, now, to drive Northward in conjunction with General Montgomery's conquerors, the new forces will form one powerful arm of a drive to thrust beyond Paris, and toward the German homeland.

In line with the announced Allied objective of destroying the German armies, this new army in the South will engage whatever forces it finds in its path—but after firmly establishing itself it seems unlikely (from present indications) to meet real resistance until it has plunged far to the North. The very presence of this new invasion army places the enemy's Italian forces in danger, and makes his retreat there inevitable. It also will make the South of France untenable, places all forces now caught between invasion forces in danger and immeasurably brightens prospects of an early end to the struggle in Europe.

However skilfully the enemy deploys to meet this new threat in the South, he will meet with insuperable obstacles. It is reasonable to expect that the Allied High Command, with vast resources in men and materiel at its disposal in the Mediterranean, will again pour into France a force capable of outgunning and out-fighting anything Hitler's brow-beaten generals can summon to meet it. The time is not far off until these two great forces in France will be joined for the final great blow in the West. When that day comes, Hitler's Third Reich will not be long for this world.

The FEPC

Rather Than Solving A Problem, It Enlarges One

Any American of conscience, it seems to us, must look upon the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee with admiration for its goal and its expressed ideals. But there are increasing numbers in all sections of the country who are becoming increasingly dubious of FEPC. There are new suspicions (not confined to the forces of reaction) that this laudable attempt to make war on bigotry and discrimination has gone sadly awry.

For example, Georgia's Senator Russell gave expression to a rational view last week. In the course of demonstrating just how FEPC's policies had fomented the recent Philadelphia riots:

> *When opposing the appropriation for the maintenance of the FEPC, I undertook to warn the Congress of the danger of approving an organization constituted as is this one and asserting such limitless powers. No fair-minded man would quarrel with its alleged purpose of securing the fullest utilization of manpower and equal pay for equal work without regard to race, color, or creed. However, the records of the actions and proceedings of this body, which I presented then, were convincing proof that nothing but trouble could be expected from a group exercising such powers, in view of the fact that they consider it more important to impose their own ideas of social reform upon the nation than to work for economic equality, or to promote the war effort, or indeed than winning the war.*
>
> *I am disturbed, Mr. President, as I have never been disturbed before, by the evil which portends for the people of my State, both black and white, in this ruthless drive being made by the F. E. P. C., with their callous disregard of human nature and the realities, to enforce their views on racial relations over the entire Nation.*

Senator Russell is not alone. A great many others, including men and women who long for an end to racial strife in the name of humanity, deplore the fact that this Committee, singularly determined to advance its own theories at any cost, is given virtually unlimited authority. We believe that the great and perplexing problem of race and color which is always with us is not to be solved in such a fashion—and, indeed, will only become the greater so long as FEPC continues on its present course.

A Danger

We Must Not Stop Until Japan's Power Is Gone

Admiral Nimitz, viewing the war in the Pacific from his vantage point, foresees that we may be spared the bloody cost of an invasion of Japan. That is at once a cheering and a sobering thought to be advanced at this stage of the conflict. Americans doubtless read the dispatch with lightening hearts, for the prospect of defeating the enemy without the necessity of a final costly invasion—the largest of all in the Pacific—is a thrilling possibility.

But such a course may be almost exactly what the Japanese military strategists are now planning. With certain defeat moving closer by the day, and the loss of their ill-gotten empire inevitable, they may well be seeking some means of preventing an Allied storming of the homeland. If the Japs can prevent the wreckage of their industrial power, and the consequent complete liquidation of the militarist ruling cliques, they can reason that the future will hold other opportunities of making war by conquest.

For it seems pretty obvious by now that the one way to remove the threat of Japanese aggression is to wreak severe punishment upon the homeland and its people. The job cannot be done until the military force of the enemy, including its army, air force and fleet, is completely destroyed. There may be a way of winning a certain peace before this power is destroyed, but it will be neither complete, satisfactory nor permanent. To accept a peace once the Japs are cleared from Pacific islands will be to invite disaster, play the enemy's game—and discredit our cause in the Orient.

Neglect?

N. C. Hasn't Touched Its Insurance Code Since '99

Just as a reminder of forgotten fact, we'd remind the most vociferous defenders of "States' Rights" and "freedom of private enterprise" that North Carolina's insurance code has not been revised since 1899 — the year it was established.

Lest that seem appropos of nothing at all, let it be remembered that State insurance laws are being closely examined these days with an eye to regulating insurance business under the recent U. S. Supreme Court decision that insurance was "commerce", and subject to statutes regarding interstate commerce.

The plea of those who opposed that view was that control of insurance was the province of the individual states, and no concern of the Federal Government. Assuming that all concerned, on either side, were speaking for what they deemed fairness and efficiency in the matter of insurance control, the revelation that our State code has not been touched since 1899 is of some importance.

For, if the state governments had been willing and able to handle insurance problems themselves, there might be no justification for Federal interference. An insurance code standing intact through swiftly-changing times seems to be an indication that North Carolina, at least, has not given this problem the attention it has deserved—and will henceforth receive.

Let's Stop This Foolishness

By Dorothy Thompson

WASHINGTON

WELL, what are you and I going to do about it? Take it lying down?

From now until after elections our sons, brothers, and fellow-citizens commonly referred to as GI Joe are going to be treated like idiots and imbeciles and kept away from reading even the daily newspapers. If stationed in Britain, where one of the advantages is that a fellow is where he can read and write the language, there will be no daily or weekly papers nor any up-to-date monthly magazines or reviews in his reading rooms. If he wants to read what is happening he will have to wait until he can get a pass out to buy a paper. On account of why? On account of we are governed by men who put their parties above their country, and on account of we have someone in the legal branch of the War Department who is just as bad.

First we had the Republicans going into a huddle about how maybe the Administration, and the Commander-in-Chief would have the break with GI Joe. So, first they fixed it so it would be as complicated as possible for him to vote. Then, they thought of how the War Department, being part of the Administration, might let a lot of Administration propaganda be distributed in camps. So, with Senator Taft of Ohio, Republican, leading off they passed a bill making it a grave offense with severe penalties attached for the Government—i. e., the War Department—to allow to be distributed in camps any literature, etc., "calculated" to influence the soldiers' vote.

Then the legal minds of the War Department got busy on interpretation, and found as how practically any reading matter dealing with controversial political, social, economic, or historical matter might conceivably influence the soldier's vote, so they pulled out of the camp libraries, histories, biographies, and books on post-war problems. They also began looking at films, because they are included in the ban, too, and so GI Joe can't see the new film, Woodrow Wilson, on account of he was a Democrat. And the latest is that the British newspapers, weeklies, and monthly magazines are also going to be kept out of Joe's convenient reach.

And when anybody blows up, as every American with a spark of spunk is doing and will, the War Department blandly points to the statute, and the statute-makers, notably Mr. Taft, peep they never meant it to be understood that way. And the fact is that nobody can believe in the good faith of either of them. For Mr. Taft was certainly thinking about the Republican Party, and not about the soldiers at all, and the War Department, it looks to me, wants to make the law seem and be utterly ridiculous, also regardless of the civil rights of GI Joe.

I'm afraid it's too late to get the law changed. The elections will have been and gone before Congress gets around to that, but it's not too late to let the War Department know that its interpretations of the law are preposterous. If they whine that there are heavy penalties attached, let them risk being prosecuted. GI Joe is risking a lot more. They won't be prosecuted either, and they know it. They can interpret the law to mean a ban on straight party propaganda issuing from party headquarters. If Joe misses that he won't have missed much.

Anyhow, the War Department, can argue that reading newspapers doesn't influence anyone's vote. Mr. Roosevelt has been elected three times with 90 per cent of the press against him. That was the American press. That the soldiers' vote will be influenced by the British press is just plain silly. And, anyhow, the theory of a free press is that people should have access to all the opinion they care to read and digest and their make up their own minds.

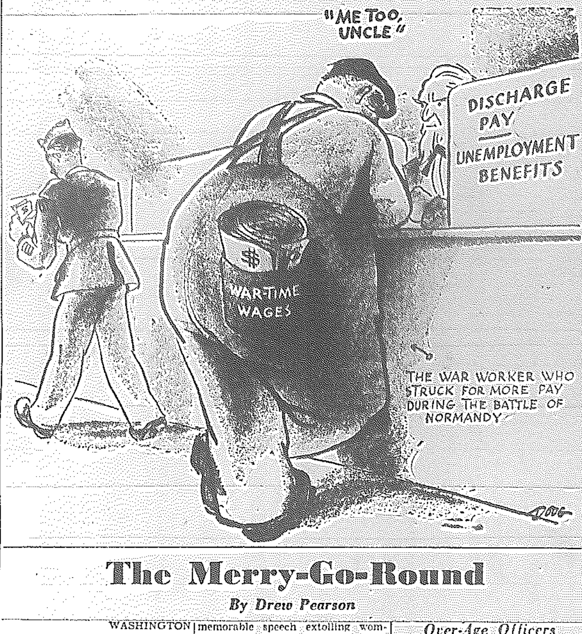
Just what the atmosphere must be in Army camps when the soldiers find out there are to be no more newspapers until after elections can be imagined. Just what the legal minds of the War Department think they are doing for soldiers' morale cannot be imagined. I suppose they don't think about that but confine their cerebrations, if any, solely to the matter in hand, which is the way of experts.

And what our British friends, who take infringements on their personal freedom with rather less docility than we do, must think of this order, needs no comment.

I hope the relatives of Joe, however, won't accept this with a shrug, but will remind the War Department that we are fighting a war for freedom not tyranny, and I hope that we will all so act that GI Joe will know that he has millions of champions of his dignity as a citizen, back in the USA, who will make such a howl that the War Department will be restored to a modicum of common sense.

'Are They To Be Treated Just Alike?

—By Doug.



The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON

DON'T be surprised if there is a blow-up brewing in Japan not unlike that which nearly bumped off Mr. Hitler recently. This columnist has reason to believe that things are seething inside Japan right now and that the die is cast against the Fascist military clique at the top.

This young military clique represents something similar to the Nazis and Fascists of Germany and Italy — in fact, emulated them. Demanding a tough, cut-throat policy against China and the rest of the world, they came into power through assassination, will go out the same way — or through hari-kari.

It was groups of young Fascist officers who shot Tokyo's leading moderates back in the days when it was not yet definitely decided that Japan should conquer Asia. Now the moderates are able to say "I told you so," and are beginning to get the upper hand.

The Emperor probably will not be a victim of the revolutionary turmoil, for two reasons: (1) He is a moderate himself, never did go as far as the cut-throat young Fascists, was kept more or less a palace prisoner by them; (2) he is better guarded than any other man in the world. High walls, moats, trained, trusted body guards surround him. Not even his personal tailor is permitted to touch him.

Unrest inside Japan has not had time to be communicated to Jap troops at the front, nor is it likely to affect outside war areas much. The Jap soldier away from home can be counted on to fight to the very end, because he cannot come home unless he is victorious. The code of Bushido does not permit it.

The big thing to watch, when and if things inside Japan reach the boiling point, is the Jap fleet. Its officers will be faced with the alternative, under the code of all committing suicide or sailing into the enemy, no matter what the odds against them, and fighting it out. Chances are it will be the latter alternative.

Post-War Women

The official record doesn't show it, but South Dakota's Republican Senator Chan Gurney made a memorable speech extolling women's part in the war during a meeting last week of the Senate Military Affairs Committee. The committee was in secret session to consider the Kilgore bill on post-war economy, and Chan was actually aiming at getting women out of industry after the war, but he opened up with this bit of chivalry:

"American women," he said, "have done themselves proud in this war period. They have left their homes, at great sacrifice, to work in the war plants and on the farms to be sure the men who are doing the fighting get the weapons and the food they need. They have gone into the armed forces to speed victory. The willingness and cheerful spirit of American women will be one of the brightest pages in our war history."

Then, suddenly, the South Dakota Senator paused and came to the real point he was aiming at.

"These women," he said, "must go back to the home and the farm. The unemployment-benefits called for in this bill would cause many women to try to remain in industry, and that is one of the evils of the bill."

Gurney's idea about women is causing real concern among many legislators. They fear that post-war industry will not have enough jobs for all male applicants, even without the competition of thousands of women who were never self-supporting before the war.

Wilson History

Erudite Ernest Cuneo called the turn on three errors in Darryl Zanuck's "Wilson." After the film opened in New York, Cuneo told Zanuck:

"You have Secretary of War Baker telling Wilson, 'I regret to say that 112,000 men have been killed.' Actually," reminded Cuneo, "there were only 50,000 American men killed in World War I.

"You also have Wilson receiving word that he has just carried 22 counties in New Jersey. That is a real triumph, because there are only 21 counties in New Jersey.

"Finally," quoth Cuneo, "you have Senator Glass seeing Woodrow Wilson in 1913. In that year, Glass was only a Representative."

Over-Age Officers

Enlisted men over 38 in the armed services are pressuring authorities to permit them the same right of resignation enjoyed by over-age officers. As things stand now, their chances of getting out of uniform are generally poor. If they have an essential job in industry waiting for them, their chances are about 50-50.

The recent retirement of Major Clark Gable and Coast Guard Lieutenant Rudy Vallee, both widely publicized, has added fuel to the fire. Gable is returning to movie acting — never considered essential, although some camera jobs are. Vallee wanted to get himself set for a new radio band contract with the next season coming up fast.

The Army explains that Gable has completed his assignment and that there is no other similar work to be done. "If he were a sergeant and could turn a camera," said an Army spokesman, "we wouldn't let him go. We need cameramen. But he's a major and is not permitted to turn a camera."

"Isn't rank supposed to be commensurate with value to the Army?" the War Department spokesman was asked.

"You just don't understand the Army," was the reply.

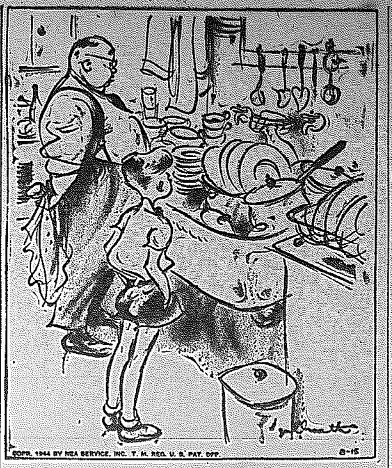
The Coast Guard admits with equal frankness, that its over-age enlisted men have almost no chance of being released from service at their own request.

NOTE — No criticism of Gable or Vallee is intended. Gable entered the service as a buck private, went through officer candidate school, and won his commission the hard way. While on duty, he made numerous bombing trips over Germany and France, winning the respect of all his companions. Vallee went into the service with a specific job to do and has done it.

Quote, Unquote

JAPANESE forces, which had been putting up a gallant fight against the enemy in the Myitkyina sector, successfully forced their way back to new positions according to schedule.

—Tokyo radio.



"Another political meeting tonight, Bill—it looks like we're stuck for kitchen police till after the election!"

Everyday Counselor

By Herbert Spaugh, D. D.

THE PROBLEM of Juvenile Delinquency, about which we are hearing so much today, is laid squarely at the door of parents, the church and the community by a writer in the Jackson, Miss., Daily News:

"Which shall it be? An all-out effort to preserve Christian teachings that are interwoven throughout the whole structure of our American Democracy—Christian teachings which cannot be sacrificed to expediency without weakening the fabric of our entire nation, or shall it be a coming together on a basis of mutual understanding and recognition by the Church, the Government and the home that there must be a change of laws and statutes, and new attitudes, created towards lax sex relations of many of our youth, that youth may have removed from it the stigma of adultery and juvenile delinquency?

"If reports be true, shall we continue longer to sit in the grandstand and watch our youth play on the field of adultry—for adultry it is until such time as the laws of the Church and Government are rescinded, and there is full acceptance by the home of a new code of morals. Just changing to 'new attitudes' will not alter long established laws. . . .

"Awakening parents to their full responsibility to the child they have created, that to the same extent the child needs physical care and physical nourishment for the growth of its body, to the same extent it needs its mind nourished, and developed by education to safeguard its material progress, to that same extent the child needs its potential spiritual qualities nourished and developed that its judgment may be sure and its will strong."

A stirring plea is made that the "Church, the community, the homes come together in a visible effort to bring about some concrete means of assisting parents to lay hold of juvenile delinquency at its root —the lack of a sense of higher moral values . . ." Usually back of delinquent juveniles are delinquent parents, the majority of whom do not seem to understand that society and Almighty God is holding them accountable for the spiritual and moral training of their children.

Some encouraging signs are noted in the growth of Parent Guidance Clinics, and classes promoted by churches for the purpose of giving parents guidance in home religious training. Let this work go on, and expand, or history will witness the spectacle of a Christian nation reverting to barbarism.

Good books are available to assist parents in moral and spiritual training of their children. A list will be sent to those who write The Everyday Counselor in care of the newspaper in which you read this.

Ickes Changes Tunes

By Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON

IN a speech in New York last night, Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes hailed Henry Wallace as the leader of the liberal forces in America. This has a strange irony since Ickes, as much as any single individual, was responsible for the fact that the Democratic convention refused to renominate Wallace.

The part that Ickes played just before the convention has never been told. Here are the facts:

Ickes is a friend of Thomas ("Tommy the Cork") Corcoran. Corcoran also has a close friend in Under Secretary of the Interior Abe Fortas. Together Fortas and Corcoran persuaded Ickes that, since Wallace had little chance for renomination in any event, he should put his weight behind Justice William O. Douglas.

Convinced by the Corcoran-Fortas line and having no great love for Wallace in any event, Ickes went to see the President. He told him Wallace would cost the ticket millions of votes; that his re-election would be far more difficult if the Vice-President were renominated.

Not content with this, when Wallace returned to Washington from his trip to China and Siberia, Ickes got to him before he had seen the President. The Interior Secretary and Samuel I. Rosenman, special counsel and close friend to the President, went to Wallace's apartment in the Wardman-Park Hotel for lunch. They proceeded to try to tell Wallace that for the good of the party and the country he must step out.

"Just a minute," Wallace said, interrupting Ickes, "but I haven't seen the President yet, and I don't want to talk about that until I do see him. If he gives me the slightest inkling that it would be better if I did not run, I will step aside."

Those who defend the President in his handling of the Wallace issue point to the difficulty of his position. He had been told by spokesmen for both major wings of the party that Wallace would be a handicap. Democratic National Chairman Robert Hannegan had repeatedly made clear his desire to get rid of Wallace. Then Ickes, essaying to speak for the liberals, told him the same thing.

What happened to change Ickes' mind, when he reached Chicago as a member of the Illinois delegation, is not clear. But change his mind he did, and with a bang. Apparently he had begun to realize that he would put himself in line with the bosses, and above all his old enemy Mayor Kelly, if he participated in any move that would result in ditching the Vice-President.

The Secretary came out of his corner fighting for Wallace. He sent a hot five-page telegram to Roosevelt denouncing the stop-Wallace move.

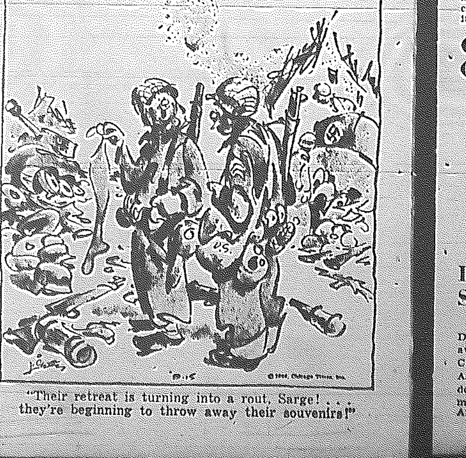
Of course, Douglas never had a chance at any time. How Corcoran, a shrewd politician with a strong antipathy for Wallace, could ever have thought so is a mystery. But his conviction was real enough for the moment to sell his friend, Ickes, on the idea.

Wallace was told all about this scheming when he returned from the Far East. He blames Corcoran more than he does Ickes for what happened. When Wallace was rejected, Ickes sent him a warm letter of friendship and condolence.

An interesting footnote is the fact that Corcoran's good friend and protege, Hugh Fulton, will be close to Vice-Presidential candidate Harry Truman during the campaign. Truman made Fulton counsel for the war investigating committee bearing his name, and Fulton resigned with the chairman this week. While he plans to open a law office in New York, he will help Truman with his speeches.

"Courageous Henry Wallace carrying the liberal flag," said Ickes in his speech to the American Labor Party convention. Better late than never, I suppose.

GRIN AND BEAR IT — By Lichty



"Their retreat is turning into a rout, Sarge! . . . they're beginning to throw away their souvenirs!"

Sad To See Army Die, Even Army Of Nazis

By HAL BOYLE

WITH THE AEF IN FRANCE, Aug. 4.—(Delayed)—(AP) — It is strange and terrible to see an army die.

BOYLE

That is what is happening as a result of the American break-through from the murderous hedge-rows of Normandy to the open space of France.

A German army is dying—dying bloodily and piecemeal. It is being cut into fragments by the steel thrusts of American armored columns and those inchoate and disorganized groups are then methodically being swept into the military bag by the doughboys who are push-brooming into captivity the elements overrun by tanks.

It is an army dying without banners and with little honor and goosestepping. There are no trumpets to sound its demise.

You remember these Nazis as they were in Tunisia—young and arrogant as ever as they marched or rode into prison pens in the great roundup after the fall of Bizerte and Tunis. Even in defeat they were still unbowed.

"We have no supplies, no transport—that is why we haven't won in Africa," they said and most would add tauntingly "But you'll never land in Europe. You will never set foot on the Fatherland."

In those days belief in Der Fuehrer was strong in every young Nazi's heart. He felt that no matter what local misfortune might befall the German troops the little man with the moustache would lead them to ultimate world victory.

MUCH HAPPENED SINCE

That was a year ago last May.

Since then Sicily has been cleansed. So has most of Italy and a great segment of France has been freed. Those African corps troops who gave up in Tunisia were the lucky ones.

While they are enjoying porkchops and sauerkraut in the United States the comrades they expected to win the world have been dying by the thousands in Russia, Italy and France on battlefields that lead only one way—to Berlin.

There aren't so many cocky young Nazis left now. The prisoner bull pens are full of boys and middle-aged men. Their frames have a sag and their eyes hold a beaten look you never saw in the desert tan clad Afrika Korps.

They crouch and look fearfully at the sky when a plane passes. They know it isn't the Luftwaffe—as it was in the good old days when Rommel's Panzers and Goering's Messerschmitts and Stukas could rampage as they pleased.

The roadways of France are littered with the steel bones of the dying army — burned out tanks, blown up guns, splintered and shell pierced vehicles of all kinds lie in ditches like skeletons of some race of extinct metal monsters.

Nowhere have the Americans inflicted such vast material losses on the Germans.

Many prisoners complain: "How can we fight you when we have no guns, no ammunition, no transport?"

And only the stubbornest talk of Germany winning the war.

Their army is dying — mile by mile, gun by gun and man by man. It counter-attacks sporadically, but this is only the convulsive fluttering before death. Dazed, weary, sweaty and hungry Germans are coming in more like Italians than Germans. In their glance is the hunted, lost look of all defeated things.

It is a strange and terrible thing to watch an army die — even a German army.