EDITORIAL PAGE
THE CHARLOTTE NEWS
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Monument

The Western World now knows what it should have realized long ago—that Nazism is no civilized philosophy made a little grotesque by a few wild aberrations, but a system invented by a gang of criminals for the deliberate purpose of taking a whole nation back into barbarism, and using it as an instrument to carry barbarism over the whole earth. Germany now is as strictly a barbarian horde as was that which Genghis and his sons and grandsons fetched out of the Great Gobi and over all Asia and far into Europe. Its purpose is naked and ruthless conquest by the sword — conquest which spares neither woman nor child. And, for brutality, the man who heads it makes Genghis, Tamerlane, Attila, Genseric, Theodoric—any of the old barbarian conquerors — look pale by comparison. To gratify his ambition, they say, Tamerlane at Bagdad raised a pyramid of a hundred thousand skulls. To gratify his, Adolf Hitler proposes to raise one of many millions of skulls.

—From an editorial in *The News* on Sept. 1, 1939.

The Sack For This Man

We see no other way out of it for the Associated Press than for Edward Kennedy, bureau manager at SHAEF and the correspondent who broke the surrender story, to be given the sack. And not only to be given the sack, but to be given it straightaway and publicly and implacably.

For the evidence clearly indicates that Kennedy, the story of all times having been entrusted to him on his honor, chose to override his obligation by arguing to himself and to anyone who would listen that the press was being censored and that, anyhow, General Allen, director of SHAEF's public relations, was a sap. In that opinion, the other correspondents concurred. But their opinion of Kennedy's behavior required, generally, more letters than three.

That the AP relied implicitly upon the good faith of its bureau chief is shown by the enthusiasm with which it pumped the story into its wires all over the world. With a news break like this to handle, you either went with it or you bumbled. The AP thought it knew its men. It went.

And that its confidence was grossly and unforgivably abused has since been established to its own satisfaction, "clearly," in token of which President Robert McClean, citing the whole, long, honorable record of the Associated Press, expresses its "profound regrets."

Regrets are in order. An imperative sequel is the sack for Kennedy, straightaway and publicly and implacably.

For the newspaper man who betrays a confidence betrays an institution whose mudsill is, and by the nature of its function has to be, devotion to confidence. Those are high-sounding words, but their meaning is understood and accepted in the trade.

Tarnished Hero

Leopold III, King of the Belgians comes back after five years under Nazi care to face an unsmiling people. In 1940, because he ran up the white flag after eighteen days of German assault, he was acclaimed a national hero: he had saved countless Belgian lives. Today, the people are not so certain. Leopold, at least, is no such hero as was his father, gallant Albert.

For in his time, when the Germans had come, the great forts had been held for a week—long enough to give France and England a chance—and then the retreat began. But Albert never quit. He fell back to a corner of his kingdom and held out to the end of the war, staying in the field with his little army. But Leopold was no Albert.

His people couldn't understand him, though they were happy enough at the time to have done with the Stukas and the sky-troops. Now, they reflect bitterly that he lived the five years in comfort, even in luxury, while the Nazis turned his country inside out. They regret that he did not flee them, as did Queen Wilhelmina. They are beginning to say that the King should step down, and leave the throne to Baudouin, his 14-year-old son.

Now that the ordeal is over, and Belgium has come back into the world, Leopold's people are less tolerant, somehow. They found the taste of Nazism bitter, under Quislings like Leon Degrelle and Henri de Man. And in the five years they discovered that the exchange of life for dark captivity is not such a bargain, after all. There are hard days ahead for Leopold, and that is the way it should be.

Fielder's Choice

It is true, what they were crying into their highballs, those habitues (and sons of habitues) of the New York night spots. That curfew was a piece of deliberate disciplinarianism, imposed highhandedly for no other solid reason than to make New York night life know there was a war on.

The main purpose of the curfew was, ostensibly, to save fuel by saving light and heat, and perhaps in a lesser measure to force nightclub employees into more productive lines of employment. With the end of the war in Europe, neither coal (see the statement of the Solid Fuels Administration) nor commit any rationed householder) nor manpower (see Selective Service's quota for June and the statement of the War Manpower Commission) became unpolitical items, either immediately or in prospect. But the curfew was lifted the very next night.

And if we mistake not the expression on the countenance of Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion Vinson, it was shamefaced. Apparently somebody in the Administration, and it looks like Jimmy Byrnes, was peeved into committing a nuisance and then had to stare it out.

Schusnigg's Trials

More than seven years little Kurt Schusnigg has dwelt in darkness. It was reported, earlier, that he sat in a ten-foot cell, furnished only with a bed, a chair, and a burly Storm Trooper who never left the room. The Nazis did not allow him to shave. Daily, they played records to him, on which the voices of Hitler and Goebbels shouted, vilifying him.

Liberated this week, Schusnigg told how the Nazis refused to call him by name. They addressed him as Dr. Auster.

But the Reich, for some reason, did not harm him. In 1938, denying that he was a broken man, Berlin said only that he was in a "depressed state." Police said, then, that "Germany's dignity would not allow him to be sentenced to death or a long jail term." So the little Chancellor, Austria's last, simply sat in Vienna. He was charged with "violating the Austrian constitution."

And this was his sin:

As one of the few surviving members of the Dollfuss cabinet after that unfortunate's assassination by Nazi gangsters, Schusnigg became Chancellor. He finally accepted Hitler's harsh terms for Austria, and carried them out to the letter. An impassioned Catholic, he built up a large following for himself in the country, and declared an Austrian plebiscite on the question of merging with Germany. He had every chance of success, of keeping his country out of the German orbit, but Hitler, seeing that he might hear his first "Nein!", ordered the plebiscite postponed, mobilized his army on the border, forced Schusnigg's resignation, replaced him with the notorious Seyss-Inquart, and clapped him into jail.

In his last public utterance Schusnigg proclaimed to his people that the German allegations of disorder in Austria were "lies from A to Z, that he was yielding only to force . . . God protect Austria!" But Austria was not protected, and neither was little Schusnigg. He emerged into a new world for the years left to him, at a time when Austria needs him badly.

The new premier of Japan is old enough to be a statue in the park. It is believed a move toward turning the whole dilemma over to hon. ancestors.

Statesmen At Work

(Serious, facetious and comic excerpts from the Congressional Record).

SEN. FERGUSON. Mr. President, Mr. V. M. Molotov, Foreign Commissar of the Soviet Union, has been in America, at San Francisco. His presence furnished the opportunity for an exchange of ideas that can be helpful between our two countries. I refer in particular to the possibility of developing by mutual consent opportunities for access to the facts with respect to conditions prevailing in areas in eastern Europe, now subject to Russian control. The scope of this exchange of ideas is far broader than the scope of the document in preparation at San Francisco. In that Conference the delegates are engaged in constructing a piece of machinery to maintain peace in the future. However, the whole problem of formulating that peace and at the same time maintaining cordial relations and common purposes between the Allies while doing so, lies outside the scope of the work at San Francisco.

I pay the fullest tribute to Russian bravery and military genius. Indeed, the effort of the Russian people throughout this war has been beyond all praise, and every American recognizes this fact. Because I feel that the Russians in this hg cause, I feel that two strong nations, Russia and America, can talk to each other in complete candor, and should so talk. It is only by such candor that understanding between men and nations can be reached. Thus, in what I say there is no desire to criticize so staunch an ally. There is an earnest desire, however, that we should eliminate a factor which is likely, if allowed to proceed unchecked, to damage our relations. I feel that our course in dealing with the Soviet Union in the past has not been characterized by that outspoken candor on the part of the United States which to my mind is the only basis for mutual understanding.

I submit that the time has come for us to change this attitude. The fighting in Europe is over or nearly over. The time has come when incidents between the Allies can more easily cause strained nerves and misunderstanding. If there was justification previously for not speaking our minds freely to our Russian allies, that justification is now past. I am profoundly convinced, as must be anyone who studies the international situation, that future peace hinges upon a firm understanding between the United States and the Soviet Union. I differ with the administration only in respect to the method of achieving that understanding.

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

SAN FRANCISCO

SECRETARY OF STATE STETTINIUS has just received an interesting document from his Undersecretary, Joe Grew, listing a varigated group of organizations trying to undermine the San Francisco Conference, Bretton Woods and other steps toward international co-operation. The report was prepared by Louis M. Birkenhead of the Friends of Democracy, who spent two hours with Grew, giving him a bill of particulars regarding the anti-peace agitators whom he described as having all the strength of the pre-Pearl Harbor isolationists with no Pearl Harbor ahead to shock us into unity.

The people who are now screaming, "Poor Poland," and "Poor Romania," the report warns, are the same ones who once insisted that Poland, Czechoslovakia and the rights of small nations were none of our business. When the Atlantic Charter was first proclaimed they called it a fraud, but today they shed tears over its "demise."

Here are the chief agitators against the San Francisco Conference and Bretton Woods, according to the Birkenhead report:

Gerald L. K. Smith, one-time Huey Long lieutenant, leader of the America First Party—just arrived in San Francisco only to be marred by most hotels.

Elizabeth Dilling, long under indictment for sedition and even more active an isolationist than the Chicago Tribune.

Ex-Senator Bob Reynolds of North Carolina, son-in-law of Mrs. Evalyn "Hope Diamond" McLean, and who once edited a weekly magazine with reputed fascist leanings.

Also Senator "Pass-the-Biscuits Pappy" O'Daniel of Texas; ex-Congressman Sam Pettengill, columnist for the Gannett newspapers; Charles Hudson, Court Asher; John B. Trevor of the American Coalition; Walter Steele, editor of the National Republic, the Brooklyn Tablet, New York Gaelic American, San Francisco Leader, and the Meridien, Conn., Mallst.

Samples of the propaganda — Ex-Senator Reynolds: "Bretton Woods is an insane plot for world government" sponsored by "international bankers." Mrs. Lyrl Van Hyning of "We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America," says of the San Francisco Conference: "Your son is to be a policeman. If you want to see your boy again, then speak out now or forever hold your peace."

The New York News: "San Francisco is as phony as a seven-dollar bill. It has no concern with establishing a peace of justice."

Arab Glamour

Saudi Arabia, which supplies the chief glamour for San Francisco, has sent five of its top-drawer princes to represent the Arabs of South Arabia—all sons of Ibn Saud, the man from whom Roosevelt said he had learned more about the Jewish problem in five minutes than in weeks of correspondence.

Riding through San Francisco in limousines supplied by the Standard Oil Co. of California, and striding through hotel lobbies dressed in long-flowing burnooses, they are the chief visual attraction of the conference. The other day as the five Arab princes walked past, a near-by lady remarked: "Oh, they're so fierce, so romantic." In perfectly good English, one of the princes, scarcely turning his head, replied:

"Tut, Tut, you should see us on horses, my dear."

Broadway & Royalty

Fast-talking Walter Winchell, highest-Hoopered news commentator on the air, went to call on gentle, slow-speaking British Ambassador, the Earl of Halifax, a delegate at the San Francisco parley.

His Lordship, who can trace his ancestry back five centuries and who has served as Viceroy of India, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Agriculture, asked polite and curious questions about Winchell's method of broadcasting.

"Do you ever let visitors come and watch you broadcast?" questioned his Lordship, indicating that he might like to come and watch the mystical ceremony. "Oh no," shot back Winchell, "some nut might grab the microphone and yell in it at 27,000,000 people. Then where would I be?"

His dignified Lordship smiled, decided he would not risk the temptation of addressing Winchell's audience of 27,000,000.

Note—A radio audience is estimated at about one million listeners for every point of Hooper rating, and Winchell's hooper is 27.

Discrimination At Frisco

While San Francisco delegates attempted to build a framework to carry out the Four Freedoms of the Atlantic Charter, the minions of Music Dictator James C. Petrillo were denying the right of one of America's foremost Negro singers to make music recordings if accompanied by a white pianist or any other white musicians.

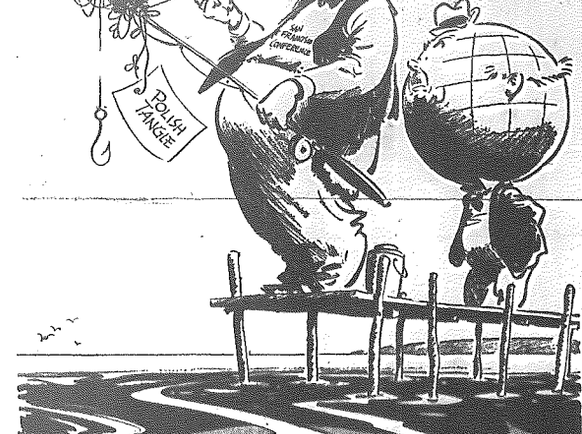
The Negro, Huddy Ledbetter, better known as "Lead Belly," is probably the nation's most outstanding folk singer, has made hundreds of recordings for the Library of Congress. But in San Francisco, Petrillo's Musician's Local Union 6 denied him the right to make recordings with three white musicians—Ellie Horne, Squire Girsbach and Paul Lingo.

Ed Moore, vice-president of Local 6, and Secretary Jack Haywood telephoned Petrillo in Chicago to ask whether Ledbetter could play with the three white musicians and got the word "no."

There has been a long standing rule in the San Francisco Bay area that Negro musicians cannot play in public with whites. But Local 6 once before stretched this rule to discriminate against Negroes even on private recordings where the public has no idea who the musicians are, and whether they are white or black.

The other notable case was that of 64-year-old Willie "Bunk" Johnson, legendary trumpet genius supposed to have been dead but discovered working in a cotton field. He was one of the inventors of jazz in New Orleans at the turn of the century, and the teacher of Louis Armstrong. Time Magazine devoted a whole music section to him, but when brought to San Francisco by the Museum of Art Bunk Johnson was forced to return east after Local 6 ruled on its own interpretation of the Four Freedoms.

Fisherman's Luck



Arnold, Author Of Victory

By Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON

IN MOST newspapers, if it got in at all, it was a small item buried on the inside by the sensational news of more surrender in Europe. Yet it marked the homeward progress of one of the very great heroes of this war—one of the authors of the victory.

The one-paragraph item reported that Gen. H. H. Arnold, chief of the Army Air Forces, had stopped in Rio de Janeiro for a visit on his way back from an inspection tour of European air units. In Rio, President Vargas had given him a top Brazilian decoration.

During the past week, German field marshals and industrialists have testified that it was our air power which blasted away their hope of victory before Allied forces invaded the continent. Those of us who have traveled through shattered Europe did not need that testimony. We saw something—inevitably a small fraction—of the destruction wrought from the air.

The author of that destruction was Gen. Arnold. He had the courage to go all out on a program of fighter and bomber construction that, in its inception, seemed fantastic. He bullied that program through. He risked everything on its success.

On Arnold's judgment, billions upon billions of dollars were thrown into the construction of B-17s and fighter bombers. If they had failed, then the blame would have fallen on Arnold. It would have come down on him like a ton of brick.

Gen. Arnold has been perfectly well aware of that. It was one reason why he sometimes seemed to be boastful and brash. That was a defensive reaction.

Then, too, he was constantly battling the skepticism and doubt of the ordinary individual, who simply could not take in the meaning of this new weapon. Intelligence reports showed what was happening, but there were few who could credit those reports. Sometimes when we met with him in off-the-record sessions, Gen. Arnold blustered at us.

I can understand that bluster now. We were still back in the pre-air age. We couldn't believe what this big man with the bellicose look was telling us.

There were times when he himself found it hard to credit the secret reports out of Germany. It didn't seem possible. It was hard to believe that any people could stand up under so much punishment.

Field Marshal von Rundstedt told how his armies lost their mobility. The bridges and rail lines of France were destroyed. That was von Rundstedt's explanation for the German failure to drive the Allies out of Normandy.

The Ardennes offensive succeeded during the first stages, said the old field marshal with a little show of pride. But massive attacks from the air made it almost impossible for the Germans to move up reserves. Gen. Patton, on the other hand, had the utmost mobility in the counter-attacks he directed against von Rundstedt's forces.

The question is not whether final victory would have come without the kind of air superiority that the air forces threw against Europe. It would have come, of course; but it would have come much later and at a far more terrible cost.

Irreverently, but affectionately, Arnold's men sometimes refer to him as "Old Nuts and Bolts." There is a salty, picturesque vigor about the man. One thing he has fought for is to get credit for the achievements of the men in his command.

Headline phrases such as "Patton's Bombers" set the "old man" on his ear. He hammers the table and demands the kind of publicity that will show that, whatever Patton or anyone else may have done on the ground, it is the air forces that have done the job in the air. His goal, his dream, is a separate and independent air force.

Before he left on the present inspection trip, Arnold took a long, enforced rest in Florida. His health is not good. He has driven himself too hard. Reports are that he will retire shortly, to be succeeded by Gen. Carl "Tooey" Spaatz or by Lt. Gen. Ira Eaker.

I don't know what kind of welcome Arnold will get when he comes to Miami. If he were to ride down Fifth Avenue on a white charger, we could understand that. But this is a hero of the air age, coming home in his private plane, with a victory he has largely helped to make.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith

"Every time I hint about how lovely the new Spring outfits are, Dad starts reading the war news out loud!"

People's Platform

Editors, THE NEWS:

While in Pinehurst, I read with interest an editorial entitled "Through the Nose," which proves that the British pay higher taxes than Americans and that they would welcome American taxes with lusty cheers.

There is a slight error in the fact that you fail to take into consideration that in England a company is not taxed on that part of its profits which it pays out in dividends. Therefore, it is impossible to compare British taxes with American taxes since this exemption makes differences which cannot be standardized.

In other words, I am the controlling stockholder in a company which in 1943 made around $80,000 but after taxes and renegotiation, was left with approximately $80,000. The company unfortunately was unable to pay a dividend because after paying taxes, they were in no financial condition to do so, but had they paid a dividend of say $40,000, which would be conservative in ordinary cases, I would have had to pay around 70 per cent on my share of the dividends or $21,000 on 30,000 dividends, leaving $10,800.

If this had been England, the company not only could have declared a dividend of several hundred thousand dollars, but be practically as well off. Of course, this is an extreme case, but you can look at any big company you want to and you will see that their tax is more than their profit, and if you will figure how much they could pay out if they had nothing to pay on their dividends, you will see it would make a tremendous difference and that actually taxes in America are very much higher than they are in England.

Your statement that taxes in America amount to 34 per cent of the national income and that the British soars to 43 per cent may be true, but I think this is only on paper. An investor in England would pay more, but he would receive more. Forty-three per cent of $100,000 is only $43,000, but 34 per cent of $50,000 is $17,000. This would leave the English taxpayer with $57,000 and the American taxpayer with $33,000. If we had the same arrangement that they have, the same company that would pay out $50,000 in dividends now could easily pay $100,000 and probably save money. In the case of those concerns that are paying up to 85 per cent, the difference would be very much greater.

—JOHN FLOURNOY MONTGOMERY.

New York City.

A Prayer For Mothers and the World

Editors, THE NEWS:

A prayer for our World Neighborhood, dedicated to the mothers of our day:

O, God, raise up for such a time as this women who share mightily in the building of our nation and the world.

Send us Deborahs to incite men to action;

Esthers to plead for righteousness;

Hannahs to guide the footsteps of our youth;

Dorcases to work in low places;

Ruths to make great decisions;

Miriams to watch by dark and by dawn;

Abigails to inspire understanding;

And Marys to choose the good past that shall not be taken away.

Help them — and us — to fight against the forces of evil. For the sake of our nations and the world, we ask it. O God, Amen.

—THE REV. AARON R. MOORE
415 East Hill St.,
Charlotte.

The Nazi Lawyers

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK

THE GERMANS will probably now become a nation of lawyers. It is the usual course, after a national defeat.

The defeated devote themselves to a study of the subtler aspects of international law, much of some of our gentlemen take to reading law-books in jail. This theme is already shown itself in the German Foreign Minister Von Krosigk's "surrender" broadcast. He said: "We must also recognize law as the basis of all relations between the nations; we must recognize it and respect it from inner conviction."

The sentiment is unexceptionable, and no man is to be derided for expressing an attachment to law. But it remains true that when the Germans were on top, their attachment was to the principle of force; it is only now that they are at the bottom that they have become newly devoted to law.

They will try to reach us through law, to work on us through our own respect for law; and we must look forward to a period in which the most eloquent speeches on behalf of international law (and justice, and kindness) will come from Germany. Poems, even. It is the underdog who builds up the invitations of natural rights, as opposed to force; and this is certainly one direction which the intellectual life of the new Germany is bound to take. Three years ago they were talking force, and we were talking law, and the switch is on.

Von Krosigk's speech is curious, complete, for he also trots out the idea of "liberty." Liberty has been living under a rock in Germany for a dozen years, but Von Krosigk wipes the mold off it, and exhibits it, blinking stupidly in the sun. The Germans did not talk about liberty when they were overrunning other countries, but now they are their own victims, and 85 men in muffi mutter the same words they once shot human beings for daring to speak.

The Germans will be in a not unfavorable position, as it happens, to raise question of law. Germany is to be divided into several zones of occupation, a situation which is bound, almost immediately, to bring up questions as to how the powers involved are interpreting their rights, and conducting themselves. Sharp differences in method, as between the occupying powers, would immediately give Germany a case upon which to stand before the forum of world opinion. It happens that the proposed Russian zone includes the chief food - producing areas of Germany, while the British and American zones are largely industrial. Will the Russians permit the German farms to feed the German cities? Has the issue been discussed and settled?

It will be seen that even a defeated Germany has room for play here. She will be able to raise legal and moral questions, and it is not too far-fetched to suppose that some day Russia-haters in America may find themselves echoing pleas for justice from the lips of the jailers of Buchenwald.

Our problem is not so different in peace from what it was in war. The great powers still face an opponent which has an enormous splitting potential. Unless they cling to the principle of unanimous action, they find that Germany can make almost as much trouble by using legalisms in an era of legality, as she could by using force in an era of force. Suppose the powers fall out among themselves, leaving only an amorphous world organization, before which Germany can plead her case, perhaps through the voices of old friends? The names of Argentina comes to mind. It is clear again that organization is no substitute for policy, and that we will need both policy and organization to keep the world at ease during the years ahead.

Quote, Unquote

THE building industry is the nation's number one field for postwar employment of returning service men and for re-employment of the vast number now in war industries.

—Walter R. MacCormack, vice-president American Institute of Architects.

I never could have got through this business if I had not had with me a powerful band of men representative of the nation and bound together by a loyalty which rose far above party politics.

—Winston Churchill.

It isn't a high tariff that makes a high standard of living. It's a large interchange of goods.

—Assistant Secretary of State William Clayton.