

## THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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year, \$10.60. By carrier in the city of Charlotte: 15 cents a week; one month, 65 cents; Enree months, \$1.95; aix months, \$1.90; one year, \$7.80.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1941

### 240%

#### With No Law Against It, the State Licenses Loan Sharks

State Licenses Loan Shorks

It was on July 1, 1937, the plaintif
testified, that he borrowed \$35. For 30
months he paid the loan company \$7.50
months he paid the loan company \$7.50
months he paid the loan company \$7.50
He stopped paying allosether and fitnally decided to bring suit against the
loan company for double the amount
he had paid less the amount he had
borrowed originally. The lotal damages
came to \$335. He won his case, but the
Court ruled that the atstute of limitations prevented recovery of payments
made longer than two years ago, and
so the claim was settled for \$146.50.

Seven dollars a month on 335 is at the

Seven dollars a month on 333 is at the interest rate of 20 per cent monthly. 240 per cent annually. If you wanted the use of 3600 for a year, the interest charge would be \$240. Wheek!

charge would be \$240. Wheevither remarkable thing about it all is, that, so far as the State is concerned, such unconclonable usury is not a crime, not even a mindementor. There's no law against it. The only recourse a victim of loke, sharks has is to bring a evit action. If he proves that he has been charged in excess of the statutory interest rate of 6 per cents, he is entitled to collect double the amount of interest are

But the loan sharks' clients are sel-dom the kind of people who know their rights or want to get mixed up with lawyers and court costs. And so what it all comes down to the sawyers and court costs. And so what it all comes down to, in a practical sense, is the licensing by the State of these carrion to prey upon people who may have a pressing need for money in small

### **Procrustination**

#### What Politics Did to Welfare "Merit Exam"

Welfare "Merit Exam"

For an intimate glimpe at close-to-home bureaucratic bungling, considerwith us the case of the great merit examination for North Carolina welfare department workers.

Mecklenburgers know their Welfare Department as the place where some six or eight kinds of rellef is ladied out. Its where folks go to get on the WPA, or to get Old Age Assistance, or to get in the properties of insamily.

To handle cases of insamily.

They also go there to enroll in the COS and to report cases of insanity.

To handle all of these matters requires a rather large staff of skilled and trained workers. This week the staff members were told that on Saturday they would stand their long awaited merit examination. Pivately, the case workers haven't stopped laughing yet. And, thereby hanga a story.

Way-back in-August, 1939. Congress passed a law extending the merit system to welfare departments swiministering Prederal funds. Some states (including Virginia, Bouth Carolina, Florida, and rave their exams. But. not. North Carolina, Governor Hoey appointed a committee; breaded by Professor F. T. despyrer of Duke, to see to an examination. Me sooner had he atarted work than the Goory regime was succeeded by that of Boy regime was succeeded by that of Mory Regime was succeeded by that of Melville Broughton Broughton promptly fired deVyver & committee en masse.

Then followed a lengthy period of political hemming and hawing during which Cov. Broughton tried to find someone who wouldn't be too severe on the welfare workers. After much delay, the delayer committee was re-instated by the feekless Governor.

by the feekless Governor.

During all this time, the unfortunate
welfare workers had been receiving
resists of material urging them to pre-pare for an imminent examination. Tersisting dates had been set and muchmidnight oil consumed—to no purpose.
Several McKeltenburg workers, after
nogithar of studying for and worrying
about, the exam got married and cuit,
or more in termined in the normall comment of vents.

or modes away, or retired in the non-mall course of events.

Finally it was announced last August that on the Jist day of that month the exam definitely would take place. Weekly meetings were held in preparation for the event; attudies were resumed. The Jist cases and went — and no

All along there was political firing and battices. The seame apparent that the seame apparent that are 'emedied, the Roosevelt labor policy and satisfactors are remedied, the Roosevelt foreign any care annual policy will be the principal sufferer. In this is not time the President cannot be the seame and the

most powerful portions of his patronage-dispensing machine.

Informed Mecklenburg Welfare Department employees have long since ceased worrying about the merit examination. If it comes tomorrow, they say, let it come. The politicians, having backed away from it so far, wouldn't dare do anything rash. Anyway, the results won't be announced until next March, and by that time . . . .

### Scarce Tickets

Average Highway Patrolman Makes Ton Few Arrests

Makes Ton Few Arrests

What the average North Carolina
Mishway Patrolman does with his leisure
is his business. What he does while on
duty is everybody's business and it
would appear that he is remarkably inactive during: the latter hours.
"As much is indicated by the latest
figures from the State Division of Highway Safety. The summary shows that
during October the average patrolman
made less than one arrest every two
days. During November the number of
convictions he obtained for violations of
all kinds averaged less than one every
three days. He obtained a conviction
for speeding only once every aix days,
and the figures show that about 90 per
cent of all persons arrested by the pateriof for highway violations are convicted.
Only two explanations for this strange
record come to mind. The figures don't
ngelide cases in which offending drivers
web-let off with only a warning. Perhaps the patrol doing more warning
than arrestias would have been in order.
Or maybe motorists off-our highway
are more law-abiding. But-the same
force law-abiding. But-the same
force law-abiding. But-the same
force law-abiding. But-the same
late is the control of the control.

It is obvious to any mindrest that

It is obvious to any motorist that there is no scarcity of law-breaking on there is no scarcity of law-breaking on the highway. You could scarcely drive from Charlotte to Gastonia and see less than three or four. Why the patrolmen don't see more violators and arrest more of them is beyond us—unless the boys don't get around like ordinary motorists, or have too much else to do.

### Price Of Folly

#### Roosevelt Labor Policy Creates on Emergency

Benator Pepper aummed it up nicely when he said of the so-called "hard-bolled" strike bill passed by the House Wednesday.

It was, we believe, just that, Labor It was, we believe, just that, Labor trouble came within a hair's breadth of blocking the Neutrality Act repealermed because Congress had cooled toward the Rooseveli foreign policy, but because Benators and Representatives thought it unwise to get any further into war until the defense atrike mentace had been abated. They used their support of the Administration foreign policy to pry loose Presidential support for an anti-strike bill.

Such a bill the House has now sent to the Senset. Needless to say, it goes

Such a bill the House has now sent to the Senate. Needless to say, it goes far beyond what the Preadent was will-ing to recommend, and will probably be modified considerably. Mr. Roosevelt is reported to be distinctly cool toward

reported to be distinctly cool toward the accres attice-balled provision, the freezing of open and closed shop agreements and several others.

What he does not seem to realize is that the Smith Bill passed the House as an emergency measure. Perhaps It is a blunderbuss shot at labor, but If it is, the President has only himself and his flacid Department of Labor to blame. The emergency that produced the Smith traction Department of Labor to blame, The emergency that produced the Smith Bill was created by's consistently one-aided. Administration labor policy. For nine years the Prealdent has been giving labor unions one unbridied power after another, egging them on with never a thought of the consequences. Whether, he did so for political or humanitarian (Paramasan for political) or humanitarian (Paramasan for political) or humanitarian (Paramasan for political) or humanitarian (Paramasan for political).

he did so for political or humanitarian 'reasons--or for both--he played hell.

Now the only way he can save his foreign policy is by a qulck incision without use of anesthetic. It is going to hurt, for a surgeon forced to do an en-ergency operation cannot always be gen-tle. But Congress has made up its mind that unless some of the more flagrant-blunders of the Roosevelt labor policy.

# Quitting A Cause

By Hugh S. Johnson

# TREND TURNS TOWARD POLITICAL MOVEMENT.

FOLATICAL MOVERENT.

From these ideas, standards and position, this column has not were within the America First Committee, however, has been constantly save from them, or at least toward a distinguy political moves and the save from the save frest from the save from the save from the save from the save from

mention.

The words of some of its princi-it speakers began to take on a me of religious or racial intoler-nce in which this writer can have

no part.

Nevertheless, having mailed a banmer to that manthread, it seemed a
part of timid cowardier to resign
of otherwise repudiate the original
position taken by the committee
notwithstanding that this writer
felt that it saw continually departing from him and not he from it.

Parting from nor and not account when the new reports referred in shore were published, this cold many few representations are represented in the second of the cold many few representations and the second few and political superi should be given to this movement, he would feel duty bound to split blankets with it, regardless of the continued presence of some very old and well beloved frience, like General Need, whose patriotic motive will select seeman above representations.

# COMMITTEE TO BE USED TO OPPOSE CANDIDATES

COMMITTEE TO BE UNED TO OFFORE CANDIDATES. Now the meeting at which this policy was expected to be decided upon has taken place. It is room to be a superior of the property of the committee to oppose candidates haven abandoned. But the intention has been announced to use the committee to oppose candidates the committee and the Character who have voited against the, original principles of the committee. This seems hardly less reprehensible than the third party threating the committee than the third party threating has been repractedly pointed against the committee than the third party threating the committee than the third party threating the committee of the committee than the third party threating the committee of the committe

### The Okics Are Coming, Hurrah!

Coming, Hurrah!

Business Week
California straners, facing field
labor shortages, reploted this week
veer figures released by Pederal
superies bloome that the State of the California of the Ca

Parm leaders figure about one out of each migrant family gets a job in such defense activities as the San Francisco adjugated or Los Augeles simplane factories. The rest of the family takes to the fields.



Senstor Soaper Says:

There is something palpably phony about the Rumanian vote of 1,446,889 to 66 for Antonescu. Even the finer, the costler, the naturally milder leaf is only 2 to 1.

It is estimated the alone faces on Mt. Rushmore are good for 10,000 years—always provided they duck when some lost filer is cruising the vicinity.

Mainutrition is rife in the country, a magazine alarmist cries. But we wonder. The table of contents on the wapper of the 5-cent candy bar appears to include everything.

A country of illimitable space—Russis, Every hour the Nazis capture the gateway to something which turns out to be another gateway.

Dentists say the face grows longer between the ages of is and is, it is then as a rule, that the facts of life can be

# Japan's Ace In The Hole

By Dorothy Thompson

THE poker game between the United States and sapara is stud with most of the cards on the table, and without a look into anybody's hand it is pretty offer how though as some counds out our hand and not the Japa's, as the Japa expected it would not be Japanese expected the Japanese expe

AND.

NAZI FINCERS

ARE FINCHED

We don't know whether Hitler
Intended to make this a frontal
stack on Britain, or mop up the
Middle East. The promised like
Middle East. The promised like
But at this moment the two
points of departure for his attack
on the Middle East are being
crippied—the Von Kleits srmy in
Libya, The two piliters, are being
pinched.

Japan also hoped that dur-ing the regulation. Viely might deliver the French fleet might deliver the French fleet and the state of the control of the control of the control and the control of the control and the control of the control of the control of the control of navel power, and in the remaining of African points within the control of the control of the restation of African points within the restation of African points within the control of the c

rifal to hemisphere occurse. We don't know yet the results I the conference near Paris, but it have some hints. Pirst, it was unnounced that there would be a receipt between Hitler and Pedia, and second, Rome sold officially that Mussolim would like participate. Had that happend, it would have been a very mijoriant "conference, perhaps deside, perhaps a mecadigate peace ed. It would have been a very important conference, perhaps de-claive, perhaps a necodiated peace between the Accordance with the modern and the second and the second and with no Italian at all. So we can guess that Petain had developed a certain rejustance in your of the events in Libya and the second and the second in the second and the second and

### KURDSUS PURPOSE: TO TAKE "C" OUT OF AEC

KITRINIPE PURPOSE:
TO TARE C' OUT OF APC
There was a third card. The
division of America from China.
It is now clear that Kumus was
actul to Washington with a tisk—
ARG powers and to theraten
Chinar, Kat-Sherk his os necotiared pears with Japan.
The control of the control
Ling Kat-Sherk his os necotiared pears with Japan
The hands free to enter the Southern
Pacific—against us.
This is Japanese diplomacy on
middling mind of the Control
Ling Kat-Sherk his os
see IL. From 1936 to the end of
1938 the Nati propaganda and
diplomacy were directed only
rected only against China—and
were full of fittledship for the
western polyces, as was Japan
were full of fittledship for the
western polyces, as was Japan
the Lin of 1908 Ruisla to be
located, and finally, at Munich, to
break the Percent Levely with
first speech after Munich—Octolared, and finally, at Munich. to
lored the American Control
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Lin

## WAR ON RUSSIA WAS ONLY POSTPONED



process in China while Japan moved against Russia or south-wards. Hitler's diplomatic triumph -the greatest he has ever had-was in the play that divided Rus-tice. That

maxe war. 97

Perhaps that same tacile—dividing China from her Pacific aliles—was, Japan's only hope of making war now, We don't know, But there has not been another Munich in Washington.

The Axis politicians wanted a fourth card, and a fourth hope, and that concerned American

# BLACKHAILING OF CONGRESS HAS ALREADY REGUN

BLACKMAILING OF CONGESSE
HAS ALBARAY EZGUN
I am not happy to say this, because I all want a negotiated
benet american. But what he negotiated
benet Americans. But what has
the Americans. But what has
the Americans I first Committee done
—and done, right at this moment,
the most crucial moment in the
embracials important merculation
It has begun blackmaining our
Representatives and Benators with
the threat that they will not be
re-frected unless at this moment
the threat that they will not be
re-frected unless at this moment
to be the committee of the committee of the
portal that the committee of the
a divided Congress, which could
namitage cliptic legislative or execultre authority, lose us the war,
and lose up the peace And, of,
they are rushing support to Fastians under an anul-Fascist slotgen!

and that concerned American domeatle politics. They hoped first,
hat they could bring about a
concerned american labor
meatle politics. They hoped first,
hat they could bring about a
concerned american labor
meatle politics. They hoped first,
hat they could bring about a
concerned american labor
meatle politics. They hoped first,
he had been the only are in the bole for
repeating again the Prench expesigner. What they wanted was
there a labor victory by attrice,
multi-babor legiblation. Either evenmulti-babor legiblation.

The President—axe this game.

The President—axe this game.

The President—axe this game.

Filter help therefore to bring—
like impression like Japan can'
and he avoided the and congress,
we trust, will be as wise as he.

But the Asia politicisms had a
laborated the and congress,
we frust, and the president of the state of the president
column, and here, to our cternal
state of the president of the congress,
was very could be the congress,
was very could be the congress,
was very could be the congress,
was very controlled the congress,
was very controlled the congress,
was very controlled to the congress of t

Letters To The Editors:

# Who Sold Rotten Eggs?

names were inseed.

Last week other stores were inspected and rotten eggs were found. That was in our papers too, but the owners were not named. These were big stores; the others were small.

were oig stores, the others were the control with rean will suffer; but who know who was willing ration ergal Those retail merchants adoxin—who are they? We know all the others. We are all so glad we don't have dictator. We don't want to live as if we had one. AMS L. T. HOVIS 'DO Raidwin Avenue Charlotte.

Editorial.

# ls Approved

Is Approved
Editors, The News:
Your editorial in the Charlotte
News yesterday was appreciated by
the Brotherhood of Raifroad Traintene and all its members in this
state, and in all the United States,
Canada and Newfoundhaud.
Your editorial "Good Example,
Tallicoad Labor, Management show
What Can Be Done' has covered
that the public will better undertand both sides, and why a small

Increase was accepted by the Brotherhoods.
We don't think the increase Editors, THE CHEWS:

Three weeks ago, I read in our payers that many cafes, candy little, and grocery stores were closed by health inspectors. The owners' will be enough to take care then and grocery stores were closed.

Last week other ators were found, the control triving during the contr

certy porticular as long as it is in the control of the control of

# Dirge

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT If the shoe fits you put it on: Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding your own selves.—James 1:22.

# "Thumbs Up" Along the Defense Highway



# Take tiff The Wraps

By Raymond Clappe



democracies we ness and lack preparedness. C high military official said to me week that U the Japanese who running policy could come to the United States and take a trip aroune our defense industries there wouldn's be any danger of war in the Pacific

our onesses moustress there would be any danger of war in the Pacific SECRET DISCUSSION STRATECY FAILED.

To protect the Japaness we have practiced attends the utilizate in secret diplomacy. Peaco discussions wint on secretly for months, and those fer who knew about them were piedged to secret. The jumpus was to avoid many the protect of the protect

more are being sen! In, the fotal num-ber far exceeding the six of the form which Indo-China agreed to admit, If we, had laiked out in public, and demonstraked the amount of American public support behind the Government it might have had more effect in Japan. At any rate wh have opened up within the last few days, Officials have allowed. further opened up the play by an-houncing that he has asked Japan to tell us why she it rushing troops to Indo-China during the present peach tails.

# PUBLICITY ON ECONOMIC DEFENSE MIGHT HELP

PEFENSE MIGHT HELP

It wouldn't hurt anybody and is
might impress some foreign capitals for
more were told about the bitch's effective work that is being done by time
reconomic defense board. This has been
played down as largely an attempt to
obtain raw materials needed for our
own defense program. But it has gone
far beyond that, We have countered
Japan's military mores with devasteeting blows at her economy. We shut
down on Lashness purchases of troos
ner in the Philippidnes. We obtained
the co-operation of the Bittaih in culting off experts of rotton from IndiaFrechistics purchasing of strategic met.

Our production elery is about ready to go to press. Some officials believe the time is man when Axis believe the time is near when Axis merale can be undermined by Guing what we are preducing. If it is tens that Germany is pain to take an-other look at her cards when the sear-Unial American producion—is—estruming hers, then the time is neat far way when it will be good military stratery to pull back the veil and let the facts speak. Our wan people have been told far as long, that we can't produce that they need the lift of these facia.

\*\*TORING CARRESSIS\*\*

need the lift of these facts.

EXPOSING CARELESS

TREATMENT OF PRIORITIES

Secreey regarding our defense program has in some respects worked to
its own injury. When a large time,
heiding multimes of doltars of Navycontracts, is found usine high-priority
machines to produce low-priority geodethat will not be preeded for two of machitrs to produce low-priority goods that will not be peeded for two of three years, as was recently found to be the case, publicity is good medic often. One Navy impractor found precious stainless steel being diverted to a toy manufacturer. Another found that electric-finance steel was going to a low-priority uses, and he planted hinself in front of the furness until the company straightened out tha meas. Publicity for some of these reports would have a healthy effect upon carreless industry. For a long time dermany corec her neighbors by telling them of her overspowering armaments. That is the way littler wan Munich, We are about his concasted our waskness can be casef adde so that the facts can testify the new military force that has apiphared since the fall of France. The time stool here when you replanted and economic warfare will gain tops; hy morning more in the open.

# Visitin' Around

When the complete com

Hi Yeh, Butchi (Roberta Item, Concord Tribuse). Concord Tribuse. Since the coming of cold weather the peat week quite a few of the farmes are Butching. This of course well can

16.0 He

Ren

LOCAL

Fe

. Pa