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The Dutch Again
By Hugh S. Johnson
WASHINGTON.—The principal characteristic of our President in respect of which his press is amply justified by the record is what the "Observer" of April 5 called "persecution" but what he called "Dutch stubbornness." Whatever you call it, it certainly is there. If you look back over the story of what he has set out to do and in which he was generally successful, you will find that the purpose was to make the Dutch one or another of us—sometimes after years—the end was achieved.
He wanted to remake the Dutch people and the Dutch government. He had already appointed more justices than anybody since Washington, and there is a possibility that before the war is over he will have appointed them all.
REALLY TRAY WAS ONCE TURNED DOWN
Perhaps the most unhappy example of his "Dutching up" endeavor to get what he wants in the end is the so-called St. Lawrence Seaway. It was advanced first as a navigation project to "bring the great ocean-going vessels of the commerce of the world to the doors of Cleveland, Duluth, Chicago and all lake ports." It almost certainly would have done nothing. Practically all impartial engineering studies have indicated this conclusion and there have been many of them over many years. The waterway is closed by ice 40 per cent of the time. The low speed resulted in "ice" waters and in locking would so greatly slow the speed of vessels that the seafarers would be economical. Finally the proposed depths available would accommodate none but a few ocean tramps and coastwise vessels.
BUT HE GETS HIS WAY JUST THE SAME
Finally boundary waters between the United States and Canada had always been subjects of treaty to be confirmed by two-thirds of the Senate. The then "Navigation" argument wasn't good enough and the President's proposed treaty with Canada was rejected.
Now new elements have entered. First it is clear that under the Supreme Court the President can't do the Federal Government can't develop a stream for power—especially if an act of national defense can be hindered. Then the President under pressure was inclined to anything suggested for the national defense. So Mr. Roosevelt's "agreement" for the "seaway" rather than a treaty—which by some alchemy is not supposed to require Senate ratification—has been "approved" by the President. The "agreement" appropriation is still pending and there is an entirely new pressure of the national defense, since 1940 or 1941, a little later.



Crackdown On Axis
By Raymond Clapper
WASHINGTON.—President Roosevelt's new policy of "crackdown" on the Axis powers is a direct result of the recent German attack on the Soviet Union. The President is pressing vigorously to "harass" the Axis powers, which he believes are the hands full of multiplying trouble, and is unable to retaliate effectively.
President is piling up the evidence in our power to stop sabotage which was already under way. Germany has retaliated with arrests of American citizens, a feeble reply but about all that Berlin appears able to do at present. Now, at the request of President Roosevelt, this Government has asked for the recall of the Italian naval attaché, plainly suspecting him of having been connected with the sabotage of Italian ships in our harbors.
WE ARE HEADING INTO THE WAR
When relations reach the stage that they have reached between the United States and the Axis powers, there is seldom any turning back. Once such a deterioration sets in, it usually continues. The chances are that through incidents of one kind or another, the German and Italian missions here will either be asked to go home or will find that their own sense of pride will drive them to leave. Because of the plight in which the Axis is caught now in Europe, this Government may well expect to press its advantage ruthlessly.
I think it is quite generally felt here that we are heading for war. Now or when, probably nobody knows. Nor can anyone be sure how much war or how deep an involvement will result. It is likely to be as much as is necessary to achieve the "total victory," that President Roosevelt calls for, for his recent speech to the Senate seems to indicate.

Currie
He Would Make First-Rate Mayor but at a Sacrifice
R. M. Currie for Mayor? It's a first-class idea. The Good Government League of Charlotte is absolutely trustworthy. It is every respect a sensible man who would surely be counted on to govern for the best interests of the city and all its people.
There's no use going by the numbers into Mr. Currie's qualifications. He has the right kind of a reputation and well thought of. About him, Mayor there is only one thing that worries us.
And that is the fact that he had to be drafted.
He would be responsive to the demands of the office, if he was elected, and he would handle whatever business was to be handled. But he has a few practices which he could not afford to neglect, and the job of mayor as Ben Currie has filled it has become, particularly in these strenuous times of the defense program, almost a full-time job.
Mr. Currie, in line to be the sort of mayor the city needs, has got to make a considerable sacrifice which would come to a great deal more than simply consenting to stand for election. He has got to be a man who is willing to be a mayor to get a shot of the reins and the fancy piece of driving if he would make the most of an opportunity and make through with the task of the Good Government League.
We don't envy him the assignment, but we know he can carry it out if he makes up his mind to it.

Goliath Moves
But He Will Have To Win Quickly If He Wins at All
The Yugoslavians have now forced Adolf Hitler to what he greatly desired to do—resort to force in the Balkans and the use of force as a means of attack.
That, unfortunately, does not mean that he is yet whipped. The terrain in which he now has to fight is not suited for mechanical warfare and some of the advantages of his enormous equipment is wiped out. Nevertheless, it is certain that he has been preparing for just this possibility for a long time and many of the Austrians are themselves mountain men and used to the Balkan kind of country.
The German newspapers are warning the homefolk that no lightning campaign is to be expected this time. But it is still possible that the Nazi striking power may be so strong as to cut through to Salonika in rapid order.
If not, then Yugoslavia is likely to prove to have been the David to Hitler's Goliath. The Nazis probably cannot win a long campaign. If the first shock of assault does not take them over, then the odds will mount swiftly against them.
The British are very near the end of the East African campaign, with the fall of the Ethiopian capital, and a great veteran army will be released for service in the Balkans once that end is reached. The Nazis must be at present in Libya, too tight to make any move at all, and with the command of the Mediterranean firmly in the hands of the Royal Navy, no great force can be sent there or supplied if it got there. On the other hand, the British can send men and supplies into Greece with a good deal of success.
And behind the British is the growing force of American aid. If the Nazis bog down in the Balkans it is likely to be the signal for the growth of revolt in all conquered lands. The arming of these people as they spring up is the business of America.

Letters to the Editor: Raps Lack Of Civic Zeal

Dear Sir:
It's a fine thing, when the people of Charlotte take so little interest in the civic activities of this city. Not willing to sacrifice a few minutes of their time to voice their opinions about the air-pollution bond election. And yet these same people are the first to talk against dictators and corruption in other governments, saying "Isn't it a shame that the people of Europe are in bondage and have the freedom that we Americans enjoy?" Enjoy, my gosh! Just how many are taking advantage of that privilege? In my estimation, only about one in every ten persons realizes what it really means to be an American citizen. And the legal voters of this community should be their heads on account of the little interest shown.
And as for you, Mr. Editor: You are just trying to cut it. I can see no connection whatsoever between open Sunday and murder rate. And if you know what you're talking about, will you kindly state two good reasons for such a "footnote" item, will both know. If not, you owe Mrs. Mullins an apology.
216 N. Cedar Street, Charlotte.
(Note: Mrs. Mullins suggested that crime was the result of open Sunday. The note was, therefore, entirely in error. — Editors, The News.)
The Vanishing Salute
Savannah Morning News
Discipline and rules of military courtesy for the million young men in training camps will be different from that of the past. Off the reservation, salutes to officers will not be required. There will be no snapping to attention when officers enter the mess hall. When noncommissioned officers give orders and directions to enlisted men there shall be no intemperance or profanity. These are not innovations which have sprung up as part of the new defense plans. They have been long in development and received impetus during the World War. The discipline which soldiers took with the rules of military courtesy then were always surrounding to the French and English soldiers.
Then men on the lines knew well both the soldiers and officers who were afraid and those who faced all fearlessly. After such tests, hand salutes had no meaning. After the war, AEP veterans in debarcation and demobilization camps made no pretense of saluting officers not wearing overseas caps. The soldiers' manual was rewritten in practice in this. That revision is just being put into print.
In Which a Question Is Answered
Editor & Publisher
A telephone operator's wrong connection broke the routine of calls being made by Monroe Courtwright, Columbus (O.) Citizen reporter.
"Do you have any births to report today?" he asked of a woman when he believed to be the operator at the Ohio State University Hospital.
"None of us girls is married," came the surprising reply, apparently from a co-ed dormitory.
(Note: It is not our belief that God objects to his creatures enjoying innocent pleasures and amusement. And we suspect that decent pleasure on Sunday is quite as holy as boredom. A good deal more holy than the way in which a large part of Charlotte's population is forced to spend the day.—Editors, The News.)
TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT
As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.—Romans 8:14.
Side Glances
Remember, children—don't call her grandma or you'll spoil her day!"

Unquestionably the situation is working around to giving more help in transporting supplies to England. If Great Britain succeeds in establishing a firm front in the Balkans, equipment from the United States will be thrown in there. That area is regarded as a vital one for it offers the best foothold in Europe from which to launch an offensive against Germany in later stages of the war.
PUBLIC IS STILL KIDDING ITSELF
The strange thing about all this is that it is going forward in the face of continued resistance to war on the part of public sentiment. President Roosevelt's command, according to the Gallup Poll, has ever been one of public support he has ever had. Yet the same public turns on large majorities against war. Surely there has been little shift in public sentiment in that regard.
The war still has not come down close to the average person. It still remains to a considerable degree an intellectual cause, lacking the elemental appeal that alters the whole people down to the bottom. The market still does not tie in responses to dangers that seem geographically remote.
We look for parolea from the last war. But then it was the country producing the President into action. The clamor for war was on long before Woodrow Wilson was ready to act. This time the Administration moves against considerable lethargy and is supported by only a weak and scattered demand for more action.
WHEELER HOPES TO BLOCK CONVOY
As British shipping difficulties grow with each passing week, the need for Administration action increases. But it is evident that Congress expects to have an opportunity to pass on the question of convoys. Senator Wheeler is leading a group in an effort to force the issue, using as a vehicle the resolution against convoys offered by Senator Tobey of New Hampshire, a Republican.
Unless this question can be brought up in connection with other ones which will evoke strong support, a rather difficult controversy may result. Yet high officials in this Administration are convinced that we must do more toward getting supplies to England than we are doing. To bring this about in this situation is likely to test to the full the talent for resourceful leadership which Mr. Roosevelt so abundantly possesses.

No Trade
But Boycott Does Not at All Become Medical Calling
We agree thoroughly with the defense attorneys in the American Medical Association case decided in Washington Tuesday. The practice of medicine ought to be by no means a "trade" in the country of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act.
There the time of Hippocrates' medicine men have been treated as a race of priests. Their calling was considered as Hippocrates in the famous words, "as a sacred trust which he has received from his fathers and God." Hippocrates' medicine men, not the aggregation of individual practitioners. There have, along through the ages, been legends to that attitude, but by and large the great body of them have lived up to the spirit of Ambrose Paré as he followed the French surgeon, "I dressed him and God healed him."
There is no more devoted story in American annals than that of the old-fashioned country doctor.
But, it must never be forgotten, that the medical doctor is to have his privileges and stand apart, he also has his duties. The AMA and the District of Columbia Medical Society claimed that they had not conspired to boycott the Group Health Association in Washington, but they surely found differently.
The doctors should be so resent the threat of medicine by the Federal Government. But it is surely within the right of a group of private citizens to combine in order to secure the medical attention which they could not otherwise afford, to enter into agreement with doctors to practice at reduced rates.
Any attempt to boycott that violates not only the spirit of the Sherman Act, but the spirit of medical ethics also. If such an attitude prevailed, medicine would become a trade, which would be a tragedy only for the doctors but not for all Americans.

What Strikes Have Cost Us
Congressional Record, April 3, 1941
MR. BULWINKLE. Mr. Speaker, in the time allotted to me I cannot do more than present certain defects to the House of Representatives. 1,597,044 man-hours of work have been lost to the Nation in national defense as a result of strikes in a few days over nine months.
March 25, 1941. During the calendar year 1940 there were approximately 1,597,044 strikes in all industries in the United States. The major strikes there were 10,021,000 man-hours lost in the building of destroyers, other ships for the Navy, and many other strikes like that. The minor strikes would be 1,410,314.

See Open Sunday as Offense to God
Dear Sir:
Your footnote, ending a letter by Mrs. Mary Tuller Mullins of April 3, can only be taken as a challenge to all Christian-thinking people. I accept this note and in retaliation call your attention to the space-filler which you have so appropriately used to end this column.
"Riches and honors are with me; yes, durable riches and righteousness.—Proverbs 10:16.
I have here a list of the 78 strikes that have brought me a day of righteousness have we in making of the Lord's Day a holiday?
You can't find God at the theater or at the ball park. If you are seeking pleasure, then you put God last. God forbid!
You also speak of Sunday amusement, while, in your authority that states that people should be

Visitin' Around
Better Watch Them
Hurdle Item.
(Order Item.
Cavell Messenger)
Bare Mile had a caller from Hurdle Mill Saturday night.
Charles is "Tom-X"
(16 Years Ago)
Tahyviria Times?
E. E. Lewis and party returned home last week after a long deer hunt near the South Carolina line. Wonder what men so happy. Sure! It's a man's venison.

Nervous Man
Lord Mussolini Has Good Cause for That Breakdown
Go war of nerves yet waged in the World War II could compare in intensity with the campaign which is shaping up now in Italy. The Christmas lull before the French-Nazi conflict, the strain of "British vigilance while waiting the German invasion, the breath-holding in Yugoslavia after the overthrow of the pro-Axis cabinet—not one could be as nerve-wracking as the present plight of Mussolini.
There is still a Berlin-Rome Axis and Mussolini is still the boss in his backyard. But he has been guilty, like Cassius, of abusing patience. He can lose to Hitler, he can lose to Britain and he can lose to his own people. Of the three he would probably prefer losing to the British, but only to the point where he would have little patience with

THE QUEEN CITY'S HOPE CHEST
No. 1—An Uptown Theater-Auditorium
No. 2—A Separate Court District
No. 3—An Uptown Rest Room
No. 4—Street-Widening
Democracy: A way of floundering to a right decision, instead of being forthright, dynamic and instantly wrong.
Don't look now, little neutral, but if the party with the mutache is the one we think it is, you're being followed.



Remember, children—don't call her grandma or you'll spoil her day!