# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

*And Evening Chronicle*

Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday by The News Publishing Company, Inc.

K. S. Dowd, Jr., President and General Manager — J. E. Dowd, Vice-President and Editor

● W. C. Dowd, 1865-1927 ●

The early edition of The Charlotte News was established in 1888. The Evening Chronicle (established in 1903) was purchased by and consolidated with The Charlotte News May 4, 1914.

The News desires to be notified promptly of errors in any of its reports that proper correction may be made at once.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited to this paper, and also the local news published herein.

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Charlotte, N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

| | By Carrier | By Mail |
|---|---|---|
| One Month | $ .65 | $ .55 |
| Three Months | 1.95 | 1.65 |
| Six Months | 3.90 | 3.25 |
| One Year | 7.80 | 7.20 |

15 cents per week by carrier

THURSDAY, JULY 31, 1941


## Bomb Tokyo?

### *There Are Consequences Of Fighting Like Hitler*

Apparently it was a deliberate attack—the latest Japanese bombing of an American gunboat on the Yangtze River. And it is sure to have more than diplomatic repercussions.

A good many Americans are beginning to smack their lips in anticipation of an attack by U. S. bombers on Tokyo. There seems to be little doubt that a moderate number of fire and explosive bombs could reduce the Japanese capital and other Nipponese paper-and-bamboo cities to little more than piles of smouldering ashes.

As late as last Sunday, President Roosevelt seems to have been toying with the idea. After he saw a movie of the bombing of Chungking, he asked the photographer who took the pictures what would happen if American bombers let him have it. He was told that the Japanese capital would burn like a torch. In Congressional circles, the idea has been discussed and there are Senators and Representatives who would vote to send the bombers tomorrow.

American anger at the Japanese has been accumulating for more than a decade. The perpetration of indignities on American missionaries, the atrocities committed by the Japanese Army, the sinking of the U. S. gunboat Panay—all of these were milestones on the road to open warfare between Japan and the United States.

Now that war with Japan is no longer a remote possibility but an immediate one, it is time to do a little serious thinking about this matter of bombing Tokyo. In the first place, it must be admitted that the destruction of Tokyo would mean the slaughter of thousands of Japanese civilians. That's not how Americans fight. To bomb Tokyo in retaliation would be one thing. To take the initiative in such a massacre would leave us with blood on our hands. It would be preferable, we believe, to fight the Japanese Army and Navy for one more year, two, years rather than shorten the struggle by bombing civilians.

There is another reason why we should hesitate. When bombs fall upon defenseless civilians, be they Japs, Germans or Britons, there is born an all-consuming hatred for the perpetrator. And until the last Englishman now alive is dead—and probably not then even—until the bombing of London be forgotten. Eventually we will want to make peace with the Japanese. We must do so, for it is either peace or annihilation of the Japanese race. If we bomb Tokyo, they peace would be only a truce until the Nipponese were ready to fight again. It is too late to apply this reasoning in Europe. But there is no reason why we should espouse the war techniques of Adolf Hitler.

## Risking War

### *Fortune Poll Shows That We Are Ready To Shoot*

More than half of the American people favor all-out support for Great Britain and are willing to go into a shooting war if that's what it takes to beat Hitler.

Over 72 per cent of the American people firmly believe that Hitler won't be satisfied until he has conquered everything, including the Americas.

These are the conclusions of *Fortune* after that magazine's most recent poll of public opinion. In all instances where it has been possible to check on *Fortune* surveys, their accuracy has been substantiated to within minor fractions of one per cent. We assume that the latest survey was made with the same accurate sampling techniques.

If the survey is accurate, Hitler has been quietly but decisively defeated in his efforts to confuse and bewilder American public opinion. It was of little interest to the dictator that Americans hated him. He rather expected that. But he also wanted us to distrust the English. He wanted us to believe that after he defeats Russia and Britain, he has no more territorial demands to make. But we are wise to him now; nearly three-fourths of us believe that he would never stop until, by fair means or foul, he had subjugated all of the Americas.

Not only are the American people willing to risk war, *Fortune* finds, but they are prepared to pay for the costs of such conflict. Three-fourths of the people would willingly pay double the sales tax on luxuries such as movies, tobaccos, liquors, etc., pay a general sales tax on everything they buy, cut gasoline consumption by one-third.

It is only in her war aims that America is confused and undecided. The survey indicates that after the war, only 6.9 per cent of us favor entering anything like a League of Nations. More than three times that many, 21.7 per cent, think we ought to take a place of leadership in organizing world peace, but believe we should form no ties with any nation. The biggest plurality, 35.7 per cent, say we ought to make Germany so weak that she can never fight again. About one fourth of the nation believes that when the war is over, we should stay home, minding our own business, and try to keep out of trouble in the future.

America is ready to get into the fighting. She is also ready, if she wins, to withdraw into her shell, to make the same mistake we made after the World War, to lose the peace, and to make a third great conflict inevitable.

## *Fishful Thought*

### *A Chaser of Mountain Sheep Scoffs at Invasion*

Of late Congressional isolationists, always ready to swear by the good old Atlantic and Pacific oceans, have been professing faith in other works of nature. They see an America completely secure from attack because of mountain ranges and a scarcity of railroads. Witness the remarks of one Hamilton Fish in the House of Representatives last Monday:

"Mr. Speaker, I heard some member . . . make some remarks . . . to the effect how easy it would be for any foreign nation, particularly Germany, if and when she overcomes Russia, to attack the United States by way of Alaska. It used to be through the impenetrable forests of Brazil after a flight from Dakar. Now it is through the mountains of Alaska. I want to nip that propaganda in the bud right now.

"In the early days, when I was a good deal younger, I used to hunt and shoot in Alaska. I have hunted sifer mountain sheep in the big mountains and the vast wastes of Alaska. Even if an enemy army should get into Alaska, I do not believe it could make any progress in getting out or coming down toward the United States . . . There is not a railroad within 3,000 miles off the west coast of Alaska . . . and practically no roads."

We do not claim to be military experts like Mr. Fish, who as a Reserve Officer Colonel just concluded a 28-day stay at Fort Bragg for "training."

Neither have we chased mountain sheep across "the big mountains and vast wastes of Alaska" and therefore are not adept at jumping from crag to crag like Colonel Fish.

But we do read the newspapers and are gullible enough to believe at least part of what we read. (Colonel Fish said if he believed the North Carolina newspapers, he'd look under his bed every night for Nazis.)

Some time ago, for instance, we read that the Germans invaded and conquered a not unmountainous country called Norway. They did so, the papers said, under the nose of the British Navy, transporting troops across a body of water ten or twenty times as wide as Bering Straits. Water, mountains, battleships, and a British expeditionary force did not stop the Germans in Norway.

Then, just a few weeks ago, we read how the Germans used air-borne troops to seize the island of Crete. There are also mountains in Crete.

If Colonel Fish's faith in hills is typical of his military acumen, we can at least be thankful that he has completed his present tour of active service with the Army. Now, if only something would persuade him to remove himself from Congress . . .

---

A new idea of science is to lure insects into traps perfumed with the odors which naturally attract them. Thus for the horse fly, the bait would be jockey club.

---

Answering a query, the Treasury says it knows of no divining rod which would locate money. As for the tax framers in Congress, we have long supposed these fellows smelled it.

---

Loneliest figure in the European picture is the Duce. With the Fuehrer tied up in Russia, it is days since he had a talk over the back fence at Brenner Pass.

## Three Men Of Merit

*By Hugh S. Johnson*

THIS is a column about three guys — very important guys just now. If it is ga-ga and sentimental it has no business to be. Within the hour I have had two tiffs out. But I have enough close personal experience with these men to write about them at first-hand and not on remote control. They are Fiorello LaGuardia and Bob Moses — and I couple them for a good reason—and Douglas MacArthur who has just been appointed our military pro-consul in the Orient.

With these gents I have both tangled and embraced—agreed and disagreed, cuddled like kittens and fought like cats. But, whether it was a fight or a frolic, I always came away with a wholesome respect for their ability, courage and value as American leaders.

WHEN OFFICERS KNEW EACH OTHER LIKE BROTHERS

Let me speak first of MacArthur. He was my classmate at West Point in the days when the academy was so small that classmates knew each other better than many brothers—a circumstance which decided many campaigns of the Civil War because opposing West Point commanders knew each other so well, or their staff officers did, that each commander knew what the other would do in a given set of circumstances because he was so well aware of his character.

MacArthur was the perfect choice for the Orient. Like his father, before him, he is almost too brave for high command. There is no room here to tell of his exploits—which are those of a D'Artagnan. He can't resist going over the top with his men. As an ex-chief of staff, he knows the Oriental and especially the Philippine problem better than any other officer. As an intimate of "Cuzzy" Quezon he knows the Philippine problem better. And he is brilliant—almost beyond belief. A little spectacular and theatrical perhaps, but that is a detail. The Philippine army is his own creation. You couldn't have sifted the whole army and made a better selection than the President's.

THE BEST MAYOR NEW YORK EVER HAD

Apart from wise fiscal management, utter cleanliness in politics, proved courage of an extraordinary degree, unexampled effort and complete contempt for his own financial interests, it is trite to say that Fiorello LaGuardia is the best mayor New York ever had.

New Yorkers probably do not realize as emphatically as familiars revisiting the city at intervals what has been done to better it but you can feel it all around it as I have done after a considerable absence and not simply marvel at what, to me at least, seems a literal miracle in municipal improvement.

But the actual work, of course, my other sometime opponent, Bob Moses, deserves the unlimited praise and respect that he seems justly to be getting.

NEW YORK "FATS" MORE TAXES THAN SHE TAKES

He has sometimes been criticized because the Little Flower's dough-getting accomplishments have not been equalled elsewhere in the United States. But people who say that frequently forget that New York contributes an even larger "put" in taxes than the ratio she takes out of the colossal Federal jack-pot.

If he didn't insist on a proportionate share in return, Mr. LaGuardia would be failing in his job.

Maybe the latter part of this column may seem to have a local aspect too narrow for a column of national circulation. I think not. Mr. LaGuardia is up for re-election. In the second or third most important job in the United States he has written a record of faithful and efficient public service which is an example for the world. It is of immediate and intense national interest that such service should be recognized and rewarded. I would as soon think complacently of General Motors firing Alfred Sloan, as of the rejection by New York City of the most valuable public servant in recent political history.

## *A Darky's "Hot Shot Song"*

Pete Ivey in Winston-Salem Sentinel

Those who can't get any sense anyhow out of the Hot Sut song will enjoy what a Negro man said down in Wilmington last week. A visitor from Wilmington told it.

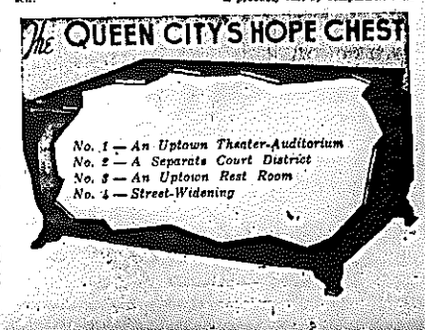
The colored man said, "I got a new song I heard. I call it the 'Hot Shot Song.'"

Here is the way he sang it:

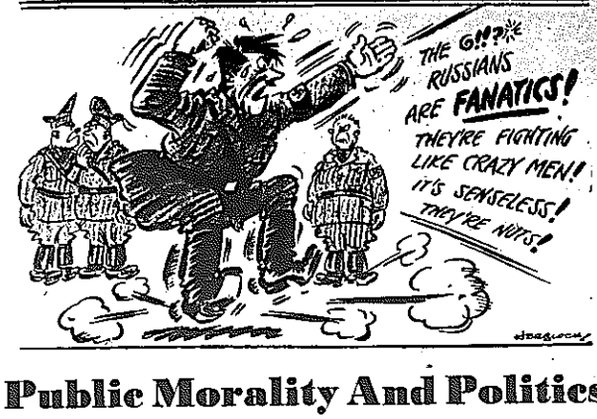
"Whole dat bullfrog settin' on de bank

In de brawlin', brawlin' sunshine?"

"I know 'sunshine' ain't right," he said. "I just put dat in my-self."




*That's Different!*




## Public Morality And Politics

Scottish Rite News Bureau

An unusual election advertisement recently appeared in Kentucky when a candidate for County clerk advised his voters that he would not collect the annual fifty-cent license fee for motor vehicles. When this was called to the attention of Assistant Attorney General Guy H. Herdman, he gave the opinion that such a promise was a violation of the Kentucky Corrupt Practices Act, and said the candidate should advertise the withdrawal of his promise in order to keep within the law.

The Kentucky Court of Appeals had ruled on the same point some time ago when a candidate for sheriff had offered to pay the taxes of all widows and orphans in his county up to $20 each. Upon this ruling the Assistant Attorney General issued his opinion.

To many it would appear that the candidate for County clerk offered, in effect, a 50-cent bribe to the owners of motor vehicles to elect him to office. The same might apply to the candidate for sheriff regarding his offer to pay taxes up to $20 each for widows and orphans.

These candidates are not charged with deliberate bribery, but would not the effect be the same as if they had offered cash for votes? They refused to stand for office on their own merits and honestly contend for election on grounds of their ability and service. They tried a new form of the old dodge, offering "something for nothing," to which the American voters are notoriously susceptible.

Men who try such methods to gain office are often basically honest in their personal and business affairs. But political honesty is a "horse of a different color." More and more it is becoming the accepted practice in this country to overlook the unfair and dishonest practices often used to win elections.

There is no reason why dishonesty and trickery should be the accepted tools of political expediency. Certainly a man entrusted with public business should be above suspicion.

There is no use evading the fact that public tolerance of such practice is what keeps it alive. Apparently public morality has sunk to such a low level that the average voter can dismiss political dishonesty with a cynical shrug, preferring to turn to more important subjects—such as the afternoon's baseball scores.

## *Blitz Roars, Slashes, Stabs*

New York Times.

The latest German blitz, the one against Soviet Russia, at the end of the fourth week had moved an average of some over 300 miles into enemy territory. It is an advance of ten or twelve miles a day. This is probably fast by comparison with the previous normal pace of armies, but not quite the speed we have been taught to associate with the new Nazi "lightning" warfare. It is not the speed suggested in excited headlines during the first few days of the campaign, when the German armored divisions were reported to be doing fifty miles a day and more.

Mechanized war is fast, and the air war is very fast, but the entire co-ordinated pace is not the breath-taking thing which it has been painted. To a considerable extent we are the victims of a vocabulary. Bombing planes invariably roar out to the attack, tank detachments slash into enemy territory, motor trucks thunder over the roads, motor cyclists blaze a fiery path. But for the Nazis say as a whole the calmer verbs still hold. It moves forward. . .

This real tempo of the blitz is forcefully brought out, oddly enough, in German photographs from the front. In the great majority they seem to depict quite deliberate operations. Now and then we have a picture of motor cyclists going at a fast clip, of a line of motor trucks rumbling on at a brisk pace. But most of the pictures show Nazi rafts fording rivers, engineers building pontoons, horse-drawn supply wagons plodding up to the front, riflemen flat on their stomachs in the ditches firing at distant objectives, tanks bombarding burning villages, and even officers at a pause on the road bending over their maps. Such pictures would do well enough for our own Civil War eighty years ago.

## *Like Father, Unlike Son*

Baltimore Sun

The official attitude of the Japanese is a sort of whining complaint that the Americans misunderstand, misinterpret, their peaceful intentions. But that is the official attitude only, and is not shared by all Japanese. Some Japanese express the situation more frankly, for example, the intelligent young Japanese who made this statement a few years ago:

"The people of the United States look upon Japan as an international criminal because of its own activities and not as a result of Chinese propaganda."

Who is the Japanese who made that statement? He is Fumitaki Konoye, son of Prince Fumimaro Konoye, who is the present Premier of Japan and is directly responsible for the aggressive new turn in Japanese policy. Young Fumitaki was sent by his father to be educated in the United States. He attended Lawrenceville School, finishing there in 1934. From there he went to Princeton University, where he was a member of the class of 1938. He played a good game of golf, and was well liked by his classmates. We quote young Fumitaki's remark from an essay on his father, written by W. B. Courtney and included in a book entitled "Dictators and Democrats," edited by Lawrence Fernsworth and published this year by McBride.

## *The Crime of Wheat Growing*

Business Week.

A. W. Hutchings of Nashville, Ill., wrote that he planted 150 acres of wheat:

"I did not participate in the Government crop program. I felt that a citizen should not take a dole from the Government."

Omitting the mathematical hieroglyphics of the transaction Mr. Hutchings was then fined $330.87 for planting wheat on his own land.

"If the bill is not paid within 60 days the U. S. District Attorney will enter suit even if I store the wheat in my own granary. And I cannot sell the wheat until I have paid the fine."

---

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

*Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father save me from this hour. But for this cause came I unto this hour.—John 12:27, 28.*

## Side Glances

"Take it easy, dear—his wife isn't along to defend him!"

## Disputed Authority

*By Raymond Clapper*

THE jurisdiction dispute over who is the automobile industry czar, or who has been given a mandate to control the kind, quantity and nature of the automobile industry, is now in full swing between two agencies of the administration.

On July 14, Leon Henderson, head of OPACS, informed the automobile industry its war production is to be cut 20 per cent during the year beginning Aug. 1. Mr. Henderson acted under an executive order from President Roosevelt giving him authority over the distribution of limited materials among competing civilian demands.

On July 24, William S. Knudsen, co-director of OPM, notified the automobile industry that it was expected to cut only 20 per cent in August, as per OPM's original order. In effect, he told the automobile industry to disregard Mr. Henderson's program. He said that in any automobile production cut OPM would have the final decision.

AUTO EXECUTIVES ARE IN A QUANDARY

What is an automobile executive to do in face of such conflicting directions from Washington? It may be assumed that the automobile people will do whatever the Government asks them to do. But if the Government defense agencies can't get together and agree on what they are to ask of the automobile manufacturers, how can any results be expected?

It is not only the automobile industry that doesn't know which way to turn. Every business using materials needed in defense work is faced with the same dilemma. Business man goes to Washington and get one story from OPM and another from OPACS. They run from OPACS, which is located in an apartment house out in Georgetown, to OPM, far downtown near the Capitol. What they are told at one place is a long way from what they may be told at the other. When they find the Government so confused, what must be the effect upon industrial effort and industrial planning?

TWO ORGANIZATIONS WITH A SINGLE PURPOSE—EACH

OPACS is telling refrigerator manufacturers how much they must cut down. OPM tells them whether they can have priorities. OPM is trying to work the changeover from peacetime to defense work by easy stages so that there will be no transitional unemployment. OPACS would move faster, and accept some temporary unemployment in order to get on with the defense job. But at the same time OPACS wants to encourage some industries which do not conflict with defense. It wants to increase some lines of goods—such as textiles—as a matter of social policy. The reasoning behind this is that it would provide some outlet for the larger earnings of the population and to some extent offset the deprivations which defense production will cause. OPM is not interested in this kind of policy. It is concentrating on the one job of producing war equipment.

NEW PROBLEMS ARE COMING UP DAILY

During the coming months there will be increasing interference with civilian production because of the pressure of defense work. The Japanese situation may compel a complete readjustment in the textile field. Nylon, the synthetic substitute for silk, is in the way to being used exclusively for defense needs.

Now we are about to get the long-delayed price-administration bill. When that is enacted Mr. Henderson will have far greater authority than he has now.

But giving Mr. Henderson more authority won't solve the problems created by the conflict of jurisdiction with OPM and with Army and Navy procurement.

It may be true, as some in the Administration say in their own defense, that organization in itself will not solve the problems. They say it is a question of men being able to work together effectively. Yet it would seem that no matter how well-disposed men may be, there is bound to be fundamental trouble where their jurisdiction overlaps or is in dispute. The Roosevelt defense organization is loose, with no clear division of authority nor any clear concentration of authority except such as exists on the overburdened desk of the President himself.

## Visitin' Around

So, That's Where Elmer's Been

(Laurel Item, Marshall News-Record)

Mr. Elmer Teed has been hauling beans to Newport, Tenn. this week.

The Corn In Wilkes Is Green

(North Wilkesboro Hustler)

It is said that in sparsely settled parts of the county distillers threaten to shoot at owners of the land if they attempt to search for any still out-fit in order to destroy it or have it done if found. Isn't it the duty for officers to go over such territory — at this time of year?