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And Evening Chronicle

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1941

Merit in Vagueness

By Hugh S. Johnson

THE Roosevelt-Churchill negotiations have already been thoroughly discussed and will doubtless be chewed over for weeks to come. This column has no desire to discuss the merits of the negotiations further. Also the spectacular showings of the highly dramatic setting of the conference at sea makes it clear that it was a unique event in the history of the world.

As a statement of lofty principles it could hardly be excelled. Mr. Wilson sincerely believed in his eight principles. The trouble in 1918 and 1919 was that Mr. Roosevelt doubtless believes in his eight principles. The trouble in 1918 and 1919 was that Mr. Wilson sincerely believed in his eight principles.

READING THINGS INTO THE STATEMENT The French press has been reading into the statement that America and Britain are now making a deal with the Nazis. This is a French refugee's estimate of the man who this week was given more power in France than any other man has held since Napoleon.

VAGUENESS IN MESSAGE IS MOST COMPELLING The vagueness, the lack of specification and especially the lack of definite promise is, I think, the most compelling feature of the message. The vast and unexpected changes that have followed each other almost overnight in this most unpredictable of all wars makes any kind of specification or promise hazardous.

JOHNSON FINDS NOTHING SPECIFIC TO CRITICIZE All this is to say that while they don't mean much, there must have been some very powerful poker-playing reason to stage this spectacular show at just this time and to speak this piece of empty world in just this way.

Diamonds for Heroes For the next fighting hero, the top award is the Knight's Cross of Honor in diamonds. Only in this state will ask if the diamonds are real.

Sending Forth a Dove—With Escort

By Herbert



A British Cup of Tea

By Dorothy Thompson

I ORDERED my waiter to bring me a cup of tea. I was sitting at the table in the dining room of the Hotel de Ville, Paris. The waiter brought me a cup of tea. I was sitting at the table in the dining room of the Hotel de Ville, Paris.

MISS BRIGGS VOLUNTEERS FOR HER BLOCK The lady saved her a blue and white sign to put in a window marked 'Housewives Service'.

WHEN BOMBS FALL IT'S BAD BEING ALONE Miss Briggs went into Mrs. Hinckley's house and upstairs.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY The old chain letter is having a revival again—this one inspired by the national defense effort.

HOW NOT TO HIRE A CITY MANAGER For aught we know to the contrary, Henry A. Yancey is an effective city manager at Durham.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT Here is a force that will overcome the world: Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God.

TEA IS SERVED DURING A BLITZ 'I keep it right there where I can make it myself,' said Mrs. Hinckley.

SIDE GLANCES A 'blast' said Miss Briggs indignantly. 'Nothing but a blast. If always said, dearie, nobody sees before his time.'

VISITIN' AROUND By Product (North Wilkesboro Hustler) The fields of ripe oats on the Oak Creek bottom of Mrs. J. P. Rousseau.

Mob Immunity

Gov. Broughton Ignores The Roxboro Rioters

No arrests. No hint that any of the persons who participated in the disgraceful and unlawful Roxboro riot last week-end will be tried for their crimes.

The general picture of what happened in Roxboro during the midnight hours of Friday is fairly clear. William A. 37-year-old Negro, was jailed in Person County Courthouse on charges of raping a white girl.

At the height of the excitement, a mob of Negro COC boys from a camp near Roxboro marched into town and breached the Courthouse. Their objective was to prevent the selection of Williams as sheriff.

Gov. Broughton has refused to order an immediate investigation of the threatening appearance of the mob in Roxboro.

What has happened here is a case of mob law. The mob is a law unto itself. It is a law that is not based on the law of the state.

The appearance of the COC boys was a real issue. The real issue is the mob of Roxboro whose leaders and henchmen have not even been threatened with arrest or punishment.

Yesterday Fred C. Handy, head of the State Bureau of Investigation, told the Associated Press office that he had been asked to investigate the mob.

And the speech was a good one, we already, expressive of the enlightened and sane convictions the Governor holds. But when he returned to North Carolina it will be incumbent upon him, we think, to say where he stands about lynchings and attempted lynchings.

Infirm Youth Correctible Defects No Barrier to Army Service All these years the poets, middle-aged men in particular, have been studying scientifically the vigor of our staid young generation.

reservoir of fit manpower and that of public health in general. However, an official survey discloses that a good many of the rejected civilians could be made sound with only a little treatment.

The suggestion seems entirely sensible, as far as it goes, and perhaps at this stage of building up the U. S. army it goes far enough. If later on the need for manpower becomes acute, surely consideration will be given to the drafting of men whose disabilities are correctible and who may be put through a modified course of training while their treatment proceeds.

Let It Go

West Virginia's a Long Way Off and the Weather's Warm

Go down some day to watch criminal cases being tried in Superior Court and you'll get the impression of justice implacable, the old eye-for-an-eye code, the State of North Carolina versus all wrongdoing.

This lady generally manifests itself when some wrongdoer inconsiderately puts the State to a lot of trouble. Such as the Negro woman whom the police had charged with abandoning an infant on a bus after giving it an overdose of some sleeping potion.

That was a month ago. Extradition papers were issued to have the woman brought back here, but the matter languished for want of attention.

Addenda The Cops Catch 'Em, but The State Sets 'Em Loose The same laxity of North Carolina's system of justice was illustrated twice again by happenings yesterday.

What's more, according to the statements of Detective Chief Littlejohn, the authorities at the reformatory not only had let their charges slip through their fingers, they never thought to report escapes to any of several interested agencies in the community from which they had been sent up.

And when we catch them," said Littlejohn, "and send them to the school for detention, they escape and are back at the same game the very first thing we know of."

The second instance aptly illustrating the laxity of the State's court and penal systems took place in Superior Court itself. A man was up for drunkenness, a minor offense. But Solicitor Carpenter recalled the fact that he had been in court three times before for the same charge, and the record showed that the State had three times taken a nollepross, which is to say that it had let him off.

On his fourth appearance, however, Mr. Carpenter belittled himself of the prior nollepross which were taken with leave to reopen the cases. When then he did, and the drunk got the cumulative punishment of 90 days.

There is nothing noteworthy in the Boleff procedure except this: It was so unusual that it became a widely noteworthy and occasioned comment.

The Puchers' trouble with his Russian schedule brings to mind the timetable of the old Erie Line when the fare from New York to Buffalo was \$18, or a dollar a day.

England was stunned...

writes Raymond Clapper—now in London—as he resumes his brilliant column on this page tomorrow. The let-down in Britain is terrific, he writes, the people were bewildered by the one-vote victory on draft extension. This article is one you can't afford to miss.

M. Darlan, Le Bon Vivant

From P. M.'s Weekly

'Darlan is the best man for the Germans. He did not take it, like Laval, through the back door. He came straight in.' This is a French refugee's estimate of the man who this week was given more power in France than any other man has held since Napoleon.

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