THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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● W. C. Dowd, 1865-1937 ●

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1941

Two Opinions

Mr. Hoover and Judge Parker Take Opposite Positions

Two things may be said of Judge John J. Parker: He is a loyal Republican in the best sense of the construction and he is not given to loose talk.

With these facts in mind it is significant to note that the greater part of his speech at the Jaycees luncheon yesterday was in direct contradiction to what another Republican, former President Herbert Hoover, had said in a speech delivered the night before.

Advocating a "middle course," Hoover declared:

"If we prepare we cannot be invaded nor our economic life be dangerously impaired."

Judge Parker answered:

"We need to understand that what is involved in the present world conflict is nothing less than the preservation of our freedom and our way of life. No intelligent man can doubt that Hitler's aim is world domination. His success would mean the destruction of individual liberty throughout the world."

Hoover: *"Hitler is on the way to be crushed by the vicious forces within his own regime."*

Judge Parker, putting little faith in Hoover's wishfulness: *"If he (Hitler) should succeed in crushing England, we would be the next in order of attack."*

Hoover: *"We have proved by bitter experience that it is a futility for us to try to impose freedom and justice upon the world by war."*

Judge Parker: *"We have chosen our leaders in the President and Congress. They have determined upon a course of national action. It is the duty of good citizens to help carry it out."*

The truth is, of course, that Mr. Hoover once more has wedded himself to a monopoly of meeting a crisis by doing nothing at all. He is muddled. He believes in neither isolation nor intervention. Isolation, he knows from experience, is impossible in an economically and socially interdependent world. Intervention, he dares not wholly embrace, for it would mean war. Herbert Hoover sincerely abhors war, and would avoid it at almost any cost. To salve his conscience in renouncing intervention, Mr. Hoover has convinced himself that Britain, with the material aid from this country and assisted by revolt in Hitler-dominated Europe, can win.

Judge Parker, with the incisive realism that has made him a master of jurisprudence, has reached the conclusion that we must do whatever is necessary to assure the destruction of Nazism. On that decision he makes no reservations.

What? No Beer?

The United Bottlewashers May Not Like This Agreement

Ever mindful of the increasing scope of agreements between management and labor, we note that an AFL Electrical Workers local in New York has signed a pact with the Norma Electric Company, said pact providing:

(1) That the party of the first part (the company) hereby agrees and undertakes to provide, furnish and supply the party of the second part (the union) with free lunches on each work day, and

(2) That the party of the second part (the union) agrees in acknowledgement thereof to (a) wash and (b) dry the dishes.

Without wishing to borrow trouble, we respectfully submit that, judging by the present temper of the Electrical Workers Union (a branch of which cut off Kansas City's power supply Tuesday night), the next step will be for the union to demand (1) fried chicken twice a week, (2) no tapioca for dessert, and (3) a two-year moratorium on hash.

Invitation

United Mine Workers Demand Mr. Lewis' Presence

To John L. Lewis, accustomed to curtain calls ("We Want Lewis") from his devoted admirers in the CIO, the urgent invitation extended him by the United Mine Workers, District 9, is something of and perhaps a little disquieting. The boys in District 9 have a matter of importance to talk over face to face with their president. John L. Lewis. Grievances they are having to pay. Lewis has always been one to build up large funds or chests. They come in handy, as in the case of that $450,000 unsecured loan to the Democratic National Committee back in 1936. And if the UMW's boss himself had Presidential illusions, as some say he has, why, a campaign fund would be a prerequisite.

The United Mine Workers recently carried a referendum on increasing the assessment (which goes to the central organization) from $2.00 to $6.00 a year. Six bucks apiece from its 400,000 members would produce, in one year, a chest of $2,400,000.

It is this assessment about which the UMW members in District 9 would like to talk to John L. within the next two weeks. If he should fail to accept their invitation or to reassure them as to the straightforward purposes of the assessment, they threaten to do what some 22,000 UMW workers over in District 7 have done—to strike against the combination of the higher assessment and 50 cents a month more in dues.

That is a new form of labor trouble: a strike in protest of union dues and assessments. Likewise it must be a new experience for John L. Lewis.

Poison Gas

The Army's Making It; Chlorine Shortage Explained

A few days ago, Major General William N. Porter, chief of the Army's Chemical Warfare section, made a speech before the American Chemical Society. Buried far down in his address and apparently overlooked by both major press associations was the somewhat startling assertion that the Army is producing tremendous quantities of poison gases.

The cat was out of the bag and chemical industry leaders now feel free to discuss what they had previously been warned not even to mention—the real reason for the chlorine shortage.

The bottleneck in chlorine itself was no secret. Paper producers had been told that they would have to do with less of the yellow-green gas used in bleaching wood pulp. The demand for the poisonous stuff is tremendous. In addition to its bleaching function, large quantities of chlorine are consumed in purifying water, producing dry-cleaning fluids, high-test gasoline, plastics, safety glass, anti-freeze radiator compounds and many other defense and non-defense necessities. Quite possibly there would have been some sort of a chlorine shortage even if Army laboratories had not demanded it for making poison gas. With the new demand it has become one of the scarcest of chemicals. In the new field of conjecture about what kind of gas the Army is making, many interesting stories are appearing.

Sydney B. Self, a *Wall Street Journal* reporter, recalls:

> At the end of the last war there were rumors of a new American gas called "Lewisite," more deadly than anything yet made. The story was that a shipload of it was on the way to Europe when the Armistice was signed, whereupon the cargo was dumped overboard into the Atlantic. Chemically termed "chlor-vinyl-dichlor-arsine," it is produced from arsenic tri-chloride and acetylene. This is probably one gas that is being made.
>
> The other important war gases, phosgene and mustard gas, besides several less well-known, all contain large amounts of chlorine.

The obvious conclusion to be drawn from these disclosures is that if it ever becomes necessary for the American Army to meet an enemy with poison gas, it won't be caught short. It is not a pleasant prospect, the gassing of one's fellow men, but as long as wars are fought belligerents will always be prepared to fight gas with gas whenever one side begins it.

"A Windsor (England) judge apologizes for appearing without his wig, which was destroyed by enemy action." Are the artful British setting out decoys?

While others spout lava and hot ashes, our Mr. Sumner Welles gets the same effect with a few well-frozen words.

"After the last out, in what the Japanese call baseball, both teams trot to the plate and bow to one another and the umpire." Evidently some other game entirely.

At Last — A Survey

By Hugh S. Johnson

IT IS certainly encouraging to know that the new SPAB war industries board is now going to try to make a survey of "requirements" of our gigantic war program — what it needs of steel, copper, oil and all other commodities, facilities, power and transportation to supply England, Russia, China and the other "democracies", our own Army and Navy, and, in a small squeaky rump position, our civilian population.

It is encouraging, but it is a hell of a time to be doing it. If it hadn't been written in the book of World War One experience that this was the first step in any industrial mobilization, the common sense that God gave geese should have suggested it.

Instead of that, we pranced up and down in a perfect orgy of priorities, threats of rationing and general disorganization of our economic pattern on cries of "shortage" and famine in supply. The "gasoline shortage" (there is a sufficient example without any extended argument on the nature of this blunder.

SURVEY IS ONLY HALF OF THE PROBLEM

But a survey of "requirements" is only half of this problem. It is generally conceded that we are or shall be short in some very important items. There are two important things to know. The first is "how many mouths are there to feed?" That should be determined quickly by a survey of "requirements." But the second is equally important. "How much flour is left in the barrel to feed them?" That needs just as determined an effort as the study of "requirements." It needs a survey of inventories, sources of supply and, above all, a hard-boiled realistic questioning of any of our many customers for this scant supply as to the actual need for what they ask and what they have tucked away in anticipation of shortage.

Something of that sort is also going forward, but it is directed principally against private industries. Again referring to the gasoline bungle and to the experience of World War One, experience has proved that the principal hoggers, hoarders and devil-take-the-hindmost boys are Government supply departments themselves and their associated agencies or contractors.

GOVERNMENT HAS TOLERATED THE GRABBERS

As has been repeatedly pointed out in this column, th Government method to date has to have been an implicit acceptance by anything these grabbers say as totally needs and imperial decrees granting them by priorities with almost no regard for what may be a destructive effect on the means of living of our civilian population.

No, there isn't enough flour in the barrel to go all the way round. Some system of rationing and control is necessary. That doesn't necessarily mean ration cards and people standing in queues, but it does mean a studious appraisal of both supply and demand—requirements and available materials — and, in defense of our own system, stern denials both to that system and to foreign interests demands that are beyond our reasonable power to produce and deliver.

It is difficult to write with patience about this subject because the principles are so simple, the experience so well authenticated and so frequently insisted upon, that these delays and woefully belated and half-hearted grasping of these principles indicate an incompetence or a prejudice almost beyond belief.

MONTHS AND BILLIONS HAVE BEEN WASTED

Months in time and billions in money have been wasted in this error. But the worst may be yet to come. If there is not some prompt and realistic application of them the harm soon to be suffered by labor and small enterprise in this country could surpass anything the depression ever produced.

Sometimes one is reminded of David Harum's sale of a sightless horse to a careless trader. When the horse began butting in to brick walls, David's explanation was: "He ain't blind. He just don't give a damn."

Norwegians Prefer the Fish

News of Norway

The Quisling newspaper, Free People, although allegedly printed in the tens of 20,000 copies, is read by comparatively few Norwegians, according to reports from Norway. Because of the good quality of paper the Nazis use in Free People, many patriots find it excellent for wrapping parcels. However, some of them even object to this use.

Thus it seems that in a certain town in Western Norway a man walked into a fish market and ordered four mackerel. The fishmonger selected the fish, wrapped them up in a copy of Free People and laid the package on the counter. The man paid for his mackerel, then calmly unwrapped the package and, without saying a word, took the fish in his bare hands and walked away.

What Happens to Untruthful Boys

John Harden in The Salisbury Post

> It happened in Judge Felix Alley's superior court here last week . . . A seven-year-old Negro boy was going to the stand as a witness . . . Solicitor Coggin was qualifying him, asking the usual questions to see if the child knew what it was all about . . . "Do you know where little boys go when they don't tell the truth?" the solicitor asked . . . "Yes," the Negro lad replied, "they goes to Stonewall Jackson Training school."

Do Jews Control America?

By Dorothy Thompson

THE remark to end all remarks on the Jewish question was made by Mark Twain, who said, "The Jews are members of the human race—worse I can say of no man."

However, Mr. Lindbergh and the Charles McCarthys of the America First Committee in the Senate subcommittee "investigating" the movie industry have neither the wit, logic, nor humanity of Mark Twain. Mr. Lindbergh, therefore, manages in one breath to express his sorrow for the persecution of the Jews in Germany while advocating their persecution here if they exercise the same rights as other citizens.

Following the line taken in Washington against the movies, he says that the "British, Jewish and Administration groups" are the only important interventionists in this country, and that "the greatest danger to this country lies in the large Jewish ownership and influence in our motion pictures, our press, our radio, and our Government."

WHAT ARE THE FACTS ABOUT THE JEWS?

Leaving Mr. Lindbergh's motives aside, what is the plain factual truth about his statement? Is it a fact that Jews are the leading interventionists in the United States? Is it a fact that they have large ownership or influence in the motion pictures, press, radio, and Government? And, if they have ownership, is there any ground for thinking that their racial origin determines the way they use their influence?

I have written down a list of the most prominent and influential interventionists in the United States, in Government, radio, journalism, the press, and public life, including the two pro-interventionist organizations, the Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies and the Fight for Freedom.

In the Government: President Roosevelt, Cordell Hull, Henry L. Stimson, Frank Knox, and Colonel William J. Donovan. In organized public activity, Herbert S. Agar, ex-Senator Ernest Willard Gibson, Bishop Henry Wise Hobson, James B. Conant, Wendell Willkie. Among the more influential radio commentators: Raymond Swing, H. V. Kaltenborn, Elmer Davis, Walter Winchell, William B. Schirer. Among journalists: Leland Stowe, H. R. Knickerbocker, Edward C. Taylor, Edgar Mowrer, John Gunther, Vincent Sheean, John Whitaker, William Stoneman, Quentin Reynolds, and the editor of "Foreign Affairs." Mr. Hamilton Fish Armstrong. Among columnists: Walter Lippman, Ray Franklin, Raymond Clapper, and myself.

Of these 29 names, who would certainly be the first people to be suppressed if interventionism were being suppressed, exactly two are Jewish. The others are racially of Irish, British, Irish and German extraction — there are three of pure German extraction to two of Jewish. Four of them—maybe more—Roosevelt, Swing, Hamilton Fish Armstrong and Edgar Mowrer, are descendants of the oldest American families extant.

Well, are the Government, movies, radio, and press saturated with Jewish influence?

ONLY JEW IN THE CABINET IS SECRETARY MORGENTHAU

The only Jew in the cabinet is Mr. Morgenthau. The policy making bodies in foreign affairs are the President, the State Department, the Army and the Navy. Jews are almost non-existent in all these departments.

There are a great many Jewish executives in Hollywood. Jewish enterprise, which had never commanded really great capital in this country, was the first to see a latent big industry in the moving picture; they were the pioneers. But, if I am correctly informed, most of the present ownership is in the hands of banks, and there are very few Jewish banks in America. None of the big three is Jewish: Chase National, Guaranty Trust, National City.

Radio is owned by tens of thousands of stockholders in several corporations. Does Mr. Lindbergh want to go over the lists and appropriate the stock in Jewish hands? He's got precedents for it, in Fascist countries. Mr. Sarnoff, a young radio wizard, was discovered by Owen D. Young and became president of R.C.A. N.B.C. has its own president and he has never been Jewish. Of 25 directors and members of the Advisory Council two are Jewish. C. B. S. has a Jewish president but not a Jewish majority on the board. Mutual is a co-operative system in which one of the stockholders is the rabidly isolationist Chicago Tribune.

RADIO COMMENTATORS MUST NOT EDITORIALIZE

Radio commentators have only one trouble with the broadcasting companies: They are not permitted to editorialize, and they are supposed to avoid controversy. Since the America First Committee considers even facts controversial if the facts don't help the America First Committee, and since the America First Committee is organized to boycott and letter-writing campaign to sponsors, the lot of the radio commentator is hard. But if the public does not like the commentator, he goes off the air. Here again, the public decides. And the most influential commentators are not paid by the networks but by sponsors. Does Mr. Lindbergh think no Jewish firms should be allowed to advertise?

Mr. Lindbergh's reference to "Jewish influence falls conspicuously wide of the mark when it comes to the press. There is an amazingly small amount of Jewish ownership of newspapers. The big news services, A. P., U. P., and I. N. S., are not Jewish. The largest chains are Scripps-Howard and Hearst—not Jewish. The New York Times is Jewish-owned, but has an overwhelmingly Gentile editorial board. The most powerful interventionist newspapers in the country are the New York Herald Tribune, the Chicago Daily News, the Baltimore Sun, the Louisville Courier-Journal, the Denver Post, the Atlanta Constitution, the Kansas City Star, the San Francisco Chronicle, the Des Moines Register, and the Washington Post. Only the last is Jewish.

The most powerful interventionist weekly press is the Luce press. (Time, Life, Fortune.—Editor's Note). Not Jewish. The two monthly magazines with the strongest interventionist editorial policy are the Ladies Home Journal and the Atlantic Monthly. Not Jewish.

In fact, if every American Jew died tomorrow it would make not the slightest difference in the policy of the movies, the radio, the Government, or the press—unless, of course, Mr. Lindbergh and his followers could fill whatever positions were left vacant from the lists of the America First Committee.

There are precedents for that, too, in Fascist countries.

But first he would have to deal with some of us who are not Jews.

Letters To The Editors

Brooklyn Needs A Park

Editors, THE NEWS:

I hope and pray you will include in your program a recreational park for colored children in the Brooklyn section. I am a mother of five children. My children have no decent place to go for recreation. When I tell them not to go to certain places, then they say, "Well, where can we go?" Then I have no answer for them, which hurts very much. They had a park once in the Fairview section. I am a widow with five children and it cost me $1.50 every time I carried them out there, which was not often. So please help us to get some form of clean fun for our boys and girls, which will make better citizens out of them.

—MRS. LILLIAN RAMSEY.
403 E. Third St.,
Charlotte.

TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

Pray that men should heed God's prophets now with them, John the Baptist came in the spirit of Elias: Behold I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.—Malachi 1:4-5.

States Lee Gets Legs Pulled

Editors, THE NEWS:

If this is the only way Charlotte can make p. t. stay off,

It's just past noon now and both of my legs have been pulled off long ago.

W. STATES LEE

Park Manor Apts.
San Diego, Cal.

(Inclosure)

MARINES REJECT GIANT WHO BITES HIS FINGERNAILS

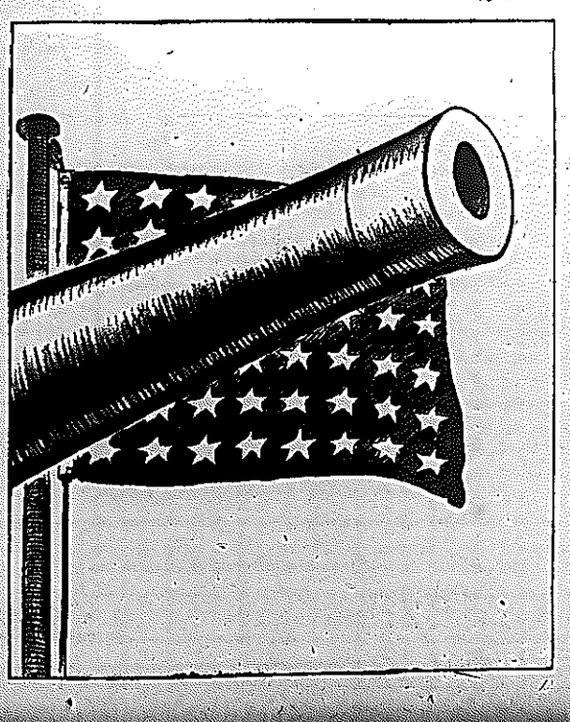
CHARLOTTE, N. C., Sept. 12.—(AP)—A strapping volunteer for the marines, with shoulders about as wide as a door and a voice that boomed, went through his medical examination here in almost record time. He looked every inch the leatherneck.

But he was rejected in Raleigh at headquarters—because he bit his fingernails, an indication of nervousness.

Now if he wants to be a Devil Dog he must grow fresh nails and stop bitin' 'em.

The Next Speaker on Freedom of the Seas

—By Herblock



Puny Food Deliveries

By Raymond Clapper

THE FACT that we have delivered relatively little Land-Lease aid to Britain is well covered up in President Roosevelt's report on the monthly operation of Land-Lease.

The figures, in terms of appropriations, allocations and transfers, are large. In terms of deliveries they shrink like a pair of wool socks in the laundry.

With regard to food going to England the report is downright misleading. The President's report says that hundreds of thousands of tons of food have gone across the Atlantic. But on the same page the figures, which look large in pounds, reduce down to less than 150,000 tons. In England I was reliably informed that about 200,000 tons of Lend-Lease food have arrived. That is equal to two and a half days' consumption in England. No reference naturally is made in the report to the fact that for a time 25 per cent of the eggs we sent arrived in England unfit to eat. That situation has been corrected and the British days done their part in trying to cover up the affairs to save the American Government from embarrassment.

WE ARE WASTING FOOD, GORGING OURSELVES

Food doesn't have to wait until factories are built. We are wasting it here, gorging ourselves. The British need it, especially for their heavy workers. Most of the people have enough to get by. Consumption has been cut 25 per cent but England is not starving. Heavy labor, however, is not being fed enough energy to do a good day's work. Children are not receiving the milk their bodies need. They need dried milk from here in far larger quantities than we are sending.

Under our Lend-Lease program we have allocated an amount of food equal to about 4 to 6 per cent of England's annual consumption. Yet Lend-Lease has been operating half a year and we have sent just about 1 1-2 per cent of England's annual consumption in those six months.

The President's report does not mention numbers of planes sent, for obvious reasons. I am not permitted to mention numbers either. But I think the facts would support the statement that of needed types we have sent barely token quantities. I refer to heavy bombers and to high-altitude fighters. Britain badly needs more tanks, even though she is producing several times as many as we are. So far as the British are concerned, ours still is a popgun arsenal.

SHIPMENTS WERE GREATER DURING JULY A YEAR AGO

Take the President's own figures on total exports, Lend-Lease and all others. His figures show that the total exports to the British Empire are but slightly higher than a year ago. Shipments to the British Empire in July last year were in fact a trifle more than those of July this year. The other months this year look better but only by small margins.

Unfortunately, to say these things may give some comfort to Hitler. But it will be short-lived comfort if criticism now spurs us to greater effort, to the kind of job of which we are fully capable once we are truly determined to do it. Only now is the Government, after a year and a half, bringing in a cut of nearly 60 per cent in automobile production. The British are making but 400 passenger cars a year, those largely for export. They have converted their industry far beyond anything we have even thought of.

WE ADOPTED THE POLICY SIX MONTHS AGO

I am not here getting into the argument about whether we should go fully into the war. I am talking about a policy adopted by Congress and for which seven billion dollars was appropriated nearly six months ago and for which Mr. Roosevelt is about to ask several more billion dollars. Without our supplies the war against Hitler cannot continue. We have made it a policy to furnish those supplies.

The British may have no legitimate kick if we do not go to war. But they have a legitimate kick if we fail to deliver the goods as promised.

We have not set ourselves an impossible task. It is only that we have dawdled at it, cluttered it up with compromises, with red tape, with delays amounting to weeks in even getting orders through the White House and into the hands of the executive. Perhaps the new production setup will improve the situation. There certainly is plenty of room for improvement.

Visitin' Around

Bad or Wood?

(Ruffin Item.
Caswell Messenger)

Mrs. Wharton Lillard is suffering from the effects of a tick bite.

Ralphie Grows Up

(North Wilkesboro Hustler)

Ralph S. Mott, who is not now a boy and youth as when he lived here, is a nephew of Mrs. Anna (Mott) Parlier, and his wife is the former Miss Ida Cowles.