

The Sunday Star-News

Published Every Sunday
 By The Wilmington Star-News
 At The Murchison Building
 R. B. Page, Owner and Publisher

Telephone All Departments
 DIAL 2-3311

Entered as Second Class Matter at Wilmington, N. C., Postoffice Under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES BY CARRIER
 Payable Weekly Or In Advance

Time	Star	News	Combina-
1 Week	\$.23	\$.20	\$.40
1 Month	1.10	.90	1.75
3 Months	3.25	2.60	5.50
6 Months	6.50	5.20	10.40
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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1943

With confidence in our armed forces — with the unbounding determination of our people—we will gain the inevitable triumph — so help us God.
 —Roosevelt's War Message

Our Chief Aim

To aid in every way the prosecution of the war to complete victory.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

The right place for the church is in the world; but the wrong place for the world is in the church; just as the right place for a ship is in the sea, but it is absolutely fatal to have the sea in the ship.
 —SAMUEL CHARWICK.

Speaks Out In Meeting

Because the American pulpit for the most part has carefully bypassed political discussion during the war emergency, it is impressive and significant when a pastor so far digresses from the custom as to assail the present governmental trend toward bureaucratic control.

This is what the Rev. Dr. Henry Darlington, rector of the Church of the Heavenly Rest, New York City, did. His sermon climaxed the massing of the colors at St. Thomas church, which was preceded by an hour-long parade in Fifth avenue.

The growth of bureaucracy at Washington and government by directives, "superceding the Constitution and Law," he said, constitute grave dangers to the nation. Such government should be stopped at once or "we will find that those liberties for which today our blood is shed have been irretrievably lost, and that the freedom we sacrificed to maintain for mankind has evaporated at home."

He wondered if the truth of Dr. Darlington's message could by any possibility penetrate the sacred precincts of bureaucratic Washington?

Water Turning Brackish

If the federal officials with jurisdiction over such matters could be in Wilmington and have to go to a pump for drinking water, they probably would not be reluctant to grant necessary authority for placing the city's new source of water supply above the dam at King's Bluff.

Certainly they would not compel the city to take its water from a Hood's Creek intake, which offers little improvement over the present Toomer's Creek reservoir.

Salt infiltration due to autumnal high tides and inadequate rainfall on the Cape Fear watershed may be nearly as great at Hood's Creek as at Toomer's Creek.

Wilmington appears to face another period of salt water in its mains. Already it is unpalatable. The city has opened its new wells and certain business firms, as usual, invite consumers to use their private wells. But whatever may be said for this gesture, it is still true that Wilmington deserves to get its water from a source free from salt, the year around.

The city was done a disservice when the King's Bluff project was turned down in favor of Hood's Creek.

It is not only the inconvenience of consumers that deserves consideration. The costs they face through damage to boilers and plumbing from salt water should not be ignored.

There is no way now to sidestep the annoyance, inconvenience and expense of another salt water period this year. It is assuredly the duty of federal authorities to provide against possible repetition next year and all years to come by granting whatever priorities are needed to place the intake at King's Bluff.

More OPA Distress

Because the OPA learns little about regional conditions and does not assimilate what is presented to it, failure after failure marks its course. Much in the manner of typhoid carriers, it spreads distress wherever it goes.

A case in point is the ceiling prices on a group of vegetables, established without forewarning and in violation of a promise that they would not be set up until later in the month. R. W. Galphin, New Hanover county farm agent, who attended a meeting at Washington, N. C., when the ceilings were announced to farmers in this region, says that if they are enforced we are in for a serious food shortage next year "because farmers cannot and will not produce vegetables at such a loss," meaning the difference between cost of production and delivery to market on the one hand and the price they may receive on the other.

He cites lettuce as an outstanding example. The OPA has set the price at \$1.15 a half crate. Enumerating separate costs to get it to market, he declares the total is \$1.44 1-2. The grower must either absorb a 29 1-2 loss or not produce lettuce at all.

The figures he quotes could have been discovered by the OPA, but as everybody knows the OPA is interested only in the figures it produces for itself, and being arbitrary closes its ears and mind to all others. As lettuce is a principal crop of New Hanover county truck growers, it is obvious that the farmers and the county will lose a prime source of revenue.

The case of snap beans and the other vegetables subjected to new ceiling prices is much the same. Where a minor margin of paper profit is shown, it disappears as soon as the costs of operating a farm are brought into the picture.

Southeastern North Carolina farmers are uniting in protest against the high-handed action of OPA. We wish them success, but are dubious. Other groups have tried the same thing and failed. Farmers and consumers might as well devote their attention to ersatz from this time forward. The OPA seems determined to make natural foods too costly. Nothing is left but substitutes—sawdust and worn-out shoes and such.

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Harking Back

With Allied forces fighting over much of the ground that Garibaldi covered in his attempts to free his native land from a variety of oppressors, it is interesting to have this news item forwarded to the Star-News by an unnamed correspondent from the New York Weekly Tribune of October 11, 1862:

An interesting correspondence has taken place between Garibaldi and the United States Consul at Vienna. Garibaldi announces his intention, as soon as he shall regain his liberty and his health, to offer his services to the great American Republic, which is now fighting for universal liberty.

The same correspondent enclosed a clipping not identified as to source which shows that Garibaldi gathered his 1,000 Red Shirts and invaded Sicily to overthrow the Bourbons and unite the Italian people. Further describing his adventures, the clipping continues:

He stormed the gates of Palermo, capturing it, and then crossed the Straits of Messina to Naples. It fell, and thus the Two Sicilies were joined again.

But Garibaldi had always dreamed of a republican form of government for Italy. Years before he had led the army of the short-lived republic of Rome against the French invaders, and lost.

Once more the dream of an Italian republic possessed him. He sought to organize such a government for the Sicilies. However, he was dissuaded when the King of Sardinia, Victor Emmanuel II, sent troops against him. The people, too, were not ready for the new form of government, and he generously gave way.

What followed was the annexation of the Sicilies to the Sardinian kingdom of Northern Italy, ushering in the beginning of the modern State of Italy.

Garibaldi's later unsuccessful attempts to wrest Rome and the Papal States from the French against his king's wishes, because of the political repercussions, were characteristic of his consuming determination to unite all of Italy.

How much better it would have been for Italy if it had had a Garibaldi during the last twenty years, and particularly four years ago, instead of Mussolini.

The Civic Council

A Civic Council in Wilmington has great potentialities. Composed, as planned, of leaders in civic organizations and meeting at regular periods to thresh out proposals for the city's advancement, and particularly for unifying activities concerned with community cultural, educational, religious, business and civic betterment, the organization can exercise a tremendous influence upon the future destinies of the entire area.

But it is worth while to point out that the attainment of major objectives will be possible only through perseverance. The council's success will depend in large measure upon its perpetuation. Only through long-range effort can it count on achievement.

For this reason, which we believe is self-evident, it is important that in the selection of a permanent chairman greatest care be necessary to be sure that he possesses not only the qualities of leadership but also has the time to devote to the job and is not easily discouraged or diverted.

There are such men in Wilmington's civic organizations. We sincerely hope that one from their number will be chosen when the Council meets on Tuesday afternoon.

In Interest Of Efficiency

The City of Wilmington takes a creditable step forward with the introduction of new rules governing personnel, designed to increase individual efficiency among the 308 employes.

Elsewhere in this issue of the Star-News the regulations as promulgated by City Manager A. C. Nichols appear at some length. It is not necessary, therefore, to review them in detail here. But we are happy to commend them, and especially the provision which discourages political activities by any member of the municipality's staff of workers.

Too many cities are cursed by what is commonly and often correctly known as a "City Hall gang." If the new policy is sedulously carried out Wilmington will never have to bear this stigma.

The provisions for regular vacations and sick leave, for promotion and transfer, for observance of legal holidays, and absence from post in case of illness or death in the family all seem to have been prepared with mutual consideration for the employe and the city government, with equal fairness for all concerned.

By the same token, and also in the interest of efficiency, the regulations are commendable for their provisions governing demotions and disciplinary measures.

Nurse Recruitment Lags

The Red Cross crusade for nurses with the armed forces is falling far behind.

The recruitment in September is a fair example. The monthly quota is 2,500. In September 1,289 signed up.

It was the fifth month in succession that applications fell off which, in view of the fact that 400 new hospitals are to be opened in all theaters of war during the next year, creates a grave situation.

Are the increasing number of casualties among our men in the armed services to languish unattended? Are fatalities to mount because nurses are not on hand to give essential service?

These are questions nurses must answer for themselves. It is not easy to believe that they can appease their consciences with a negative reply.

Fair Enough

Editor's Note.—The Star and the News accept no responsibility for the personal views of Mr. Pegler, and often disagree with them as much as many of his readers. His articles serve the good purpose of making people think.

BY WESTBROOK PEGLER

NEW YORK.—I don't want to accuse anyone of hypocrisy today, being in one of my patient, generous moods, but as to those friends and neighbors over on the left who decry the poll tax in those few states which still have the poll tax and oppose the piecework system and would deny the boss the right to fire a man for cause, the least that I will settle for is inconsistency.

All unions use the poll tax and defend it with the very arguments that are offered in its favor by those who would preserve it in the poll tax states of the southern tier. They don't call it a poll tax but it comes to the same thing because the member who doesn't pay his dues and assessments is not allowed to vote. Even worse than that, he is not allowed to work. The intent of that ostracism is to starve not only the man himself but his wife and children, as well, which is a much more cruel penalty for the mere nonpayment of some money than denial of the ballot in the public elections. In the poll tax states, the delinquent is still permitted to earn his living. He doesn't have to go under cover, change his name or work at odd jobs in the dark of the moon to get by.

Another, and much worse, little foible of some unions is the Class-B, or robot, or sub-human membership. Class-B people are usually the unskilled auxiliaries of skilled-trade unions whose full members want these extra dues and this additional picket-line power to serve their ends, but are careful to provide that the lower classes can't seize control through the ballot. No state has anything like a Class-B citizenship in those unions which I refer to as Class-B member may have only one five-hundredth or one-thousandth of a vote which is really no vote at all. His political inferiority is based on his inferiority in skill, which may not be actual inferiority at all but arbitrary classification. But imagine, if you can, the uproar that would be raised by our friends and neighbors on the left if anyone of prominence were to propose that a pick-and-shovel man should have only a fraction of a vote in the public elections while a banker should have a whole vote. That would be pretty bad, but still a pick-and-shovel man would have a free opportunity to advance through the grades to some occupation of rating based on skill which would eventually entitle him to a full vote. The Class-B union member, however, is permanently inferior. The A-Class closes its rolls for varying periods, rigs the examinations so that aspirants are bound to flunk or, in some cases, pick relatives of its members for the vacancies.

I suppose few of us realize that unions, themselves, frequently use the piecework system, but they do. Piecework is where you get a small retainer or salary and a certain bonus per unit of production, and that was exactly the system that the CIO used in its great manhunt when captives were being driven into the union pounds by the thousand. The organizers got so much per head. That was one reason why they were ready to beat people's brains out with clubs and tire irons in the riots. You give a couple of poor stiff a working over and scare 2,000 others into the union hall to join up and you are doing all right for yourself.

They fire at will, too. In one case, down South, a CIO union, called an organizer who called a strike by a fake vote, after the strike was lost, and because it was lost. The employer and the workers took an awful lacing through weeks of idleness and non-production, but that was just their hard luck. The union, in the end, suffered a pretty severe loss of prestige and canned the organizer, not for faking the operation, but because he didn't get away with it. This happens right along. They hire and fire at will and no labor relations board ever interferes because the employer is a union. The new deal won't cite a union for anti-labor activity. It

Getting The Mallet Ready For Some Good Heavy Slugging



Appian Way Retraveled As Others Say It

American and British armies now pounding over the roads to Rome echo for the modern world the tramp of legionnaires and the rumble of war vehicles that once made martial music on the Appian Way. Regarded by Romans as "the queen of long distance roads," the Via Appia was rated so important to the trade and security of the Empire that maintenance was made the responsibility of a high official.

Begun by Appius Claudius Caecus, the censor, in 312 B. C., the road was pushed from Rome 132 miles southeastward along the coast to Capua, says the National Geographic Society. The original road, 15 feet wide, was first used for military purposes. At Capua it forked. One branch dipped south to Reggio on the toe of the boot, a take-off port for Roman soldiers and merchants headed for conquest and commerce in Africa.

The other branch ran from Capua southeastward to the seaport now called Brindisi, on the heel of the boot. Its harbor swarmed with galleys that ferried traders to and from Mediterranean ports. The modern Levant Fair held at Bari, near Brindisi, recalled Rome's bustling trade with the Near East in the great days of the Empire. Then, Assyrians, Persians, and other merchants traveled up the Appian Way to do business in Rome.

Rome-bound American boys are in position to note that north of Naples the old roadbed touched the coast at Terracina, then took a 65-mile straight shoot for Rome through the 175,000-acre plain known as the Pontine Marshes—a fever ridden "dismal swamp" recently reclaimed by canal drainage.

Southwest of Terracina rises Mt. Circeo, a solitary hump that seems to pop right out of the sea. Once an island and so recorded eight centuries before Christ by Homer in his "Odyssey," the mountain is now a part of the mainland. For centuries its served as a boundary mark for the marshes. Beyond the peak, wooded sand hills straggle along the coast. A chain of lagoons edges the shore. Inland to the broad Tyrrhenian Sea.

Preclude to the east of the old road, the plain is bordered by the Lepine Mountains, a limestone ridge softened with the greenery of olive groves. At sunset the hills are veiled with purple haze, useful atmosphere for art or war.

Near Rome, the road climbed from the plain to the Alban Hills, and passed through a district of churches, catacombs, memorials, and baths. The end was near the modern Piazz di Porta Capena.

First surface of the road was gravel. Paving came much later. Milestones and repair records occasionally turned up through light on highway traffic in the age of chariots.

CIGARETTE CRISIS

The cigarette consumer who has promised himself or herself that some day he or she is going to cut down on his or her smoking learned this week, from a Department of Commerce report, that the exact date is likely to fall in the year 1944. More than two-fifths of our cigarettes are going abroad. In 1940 our production was almost exactly enough to allow every inhabitant four cigarettes a day, not considering exports. Since most young children and quite a few adults don't smoke, or don't smoke cigarettes, the supply was adequate. If two-fifths of our allowance is withdrawn we shall be down to about two and two-fifths cigarettes a year. One can imagine what will happen then. The nose and throat doctors may lose some of their customers. Well-dressed ladies and gentlemen may be seen picking up butts in the streets. The gum business will thrive. Decorative little pipes for women will make their appearance in large numbers. Plug tobacco may have a renaissance, and with it the spittoon, though the latter utensils will be of plastic rather than brass.

Yet we do not suppose the Republic will perish. The other great war, as every one knows, led to a great increase in cigarette smoking. Women including aunts and grandmothers, first asked their male friends to blow some their way and then learned, by patient experiment, that the way to light a rag is to inhale, not exhale, as the match is applied. But in 1920, after this social revolution was well under way, only enough cigarettes were manufactured to give every man, woman and child one and one-third a day. We are returning to simpler ways, but not quite to pioneer conditions.

—New York Times.

NEW LIGHT IS THROWN ON PUZZLE OF AFRICA

By RICHARD L. STOUT

Kenneth Crawford, formerly of PM, now of Newsweek, went to Algiers last summer and in his book, "Report on North Africa," just published, brought back the most complete story of the de Gaulle-Giraud controversy I have seen.

The matter has a Washington angle because Crawford was head of a news bureau here and is an experienced political writer, contrary to most of the reporters on the Mediterranean front, who are, he found, largely vigorous, young sports writers unused to tortuous diplomatic intrigues. This has a bearing on what follows.

The sum total of what he reports is that American-British forces in their North Africa invasion diplomacy followed the path of military opportunism. They were willing to play ball with any French faction, Churchill had built up and subsidized the de Gaulle group. Roosevelt kept contact with Marshal Petain at Vichy. There was little if any real contrast between these two seemingly divergent policies, according to this interpretation.

Crawford interviewed the still unrepentant General Nogues, who resisted the American landing. His loyalty was, and is, to the Lyauette tradition and to France's Morocco. This is apt to be the attitude of certain other French segments, he believes. Roosevelt left de Gaulle and the Free French out of his initial calculations, because they had little active following among North African civilians, American Consul Robert Murphy, with his conspiratorial staff of 40, collaborated with Weygand, Darlan, and later Giraud, simply because, by doing so, they saved American lives in landing, and helped to protect their backs in the life-and-death days that followed.

Incidentally, at one time Weygand was half-promised that no

British would participate in the invasion, and the first British troops landed, Crawford reports, disguised as Americans.

This is a great deal of apparently authenticated material in the brief book. Contrary to the usual liberal interpretation, Murphy appears as a very effective American representative, and de Gaulle as something more than a trial to Roosevelt and Churchill. An overstrict censorship, combined with military exigencies, prevented the facts from being correctly interpreted, Crawford insists. And the reporters assigned to the battlefield were too busy with the fighting to pay much attention to diplomatic developments, which were out of their field anyway. Crawford, the liberal, for example, was prepared to dislike Murphy, but is forced to the conclusion that he did a good job. A revealing incident came in his desire to see at first-hand the French concentration camps for political refugees which were the subject of bitter dispute in America, involving State Department policy. When the trip started, Crawford was alone. The for the war correspondents.

Without taking sides, the Crawford book provokes certain thoughts. Americans have got to learn how complicated are European politics. It just will not do to plump for one particular hero and forget all other considerations. Parenthetically, Crawford records that one editor told him on his return that he was so far committed to de Gaulle that he could not allow additional facts to influence his judgment anyway.

Another thought is that it would be wise to sprinkle trained political correspondents among the war writers at, or near, the front. Ultimately, this phase will overshadow even the battles.

Finally, there is the question of postwar "gratitude." Crawford is dubious about this. America has found allies and is lucky to have them. America is trying to make a better world. But America is also fighting in its own self-interest, to preserve its own security.

Interpreting The War

BY KIRKE L. SIMPSON
 (Associated Press War Analyst)

An old ally of the United Nations, deadlier in battle than the guns and bombs of man-made war, is again deploying its forces this mid-October week-end.

Another Russian winter is close at hand to cut at the wavering Dnieper "blood wall" of Nazi invaders, to slash with icy blasts and numbing cold at the foe, perhaps to turn another German fore-shadowed retreat into a greater disaster than crushed Napoleon's army on the same bleak sweep west-central Russian plains.

From the Baltic to Kiev, winter freeze-ups will come now almost any day. Rarely are they later than early November. Their onset this year bodes evil for Nazi legions rocking insecurely on the Russian-punctured Dnieper line, and above to the Baltic or below to the Black Sea.

The worst winter of dread Hitler has known in Russia is at his throat. It could do more than Russian or Allied fighting power, for all the year of unbroken victories, to break the will of the German people and tumble Nazism to the doom that Fascism has met and is closing in on Japanese militarism.

It can no longer be doubted that the vast Russian summer offensive which has swept the Nazi foe back across the Dnieper was a maneuver designed from its inception to merge without a break in July to another Russian winter attack. Allied apprehensions that Red armies would exhaust themselves and afford the foe opportunity to brace and stock new defense lines have proved unfounded.

There has been no halt anywhere in Russia since July to give the enemy a breathing spell. Fall rains could not check his retreat once his line of last winter was broken at Kharkov, at Orsk, and Bryansk at Nevel, and now far to the south where the Dnieper turns finally westward to reach the Black Sea, at fallen Zaporozhe.

The great retreat to shorten Nazi defense lines has been skillfully managed, but it is not over by every sign. It has not shortened the 1,200-mile fighting front from the Baltic to the Black sea, only the supply lines in the center. The German high command needs more and fewer troops, to hold that battered "blood wall" already virtually split in two by the Russian leap beyond the river near the pripet mouth of the eastern rim of the Pinsk marshes.

Moscow reports no sign yet of a German evacuation of the Crimea or the badly dented Dnieper bend front. Both are menacing threats that could engulf and destroy greater enemy forces than were overwhelmed at Stalingrad when the Russian march to the Dnieper began last winter. It is beyond military comprehension that the invaders dare risk much longer crushing a disaster in Russia as the isolation of the Crimea or the closing of the Dnieper bend trap.

Nor is the indicated situation brighter for the long left wing of the Nazi line above the Dnieper where sub-zero cold and the terrible menace of Russian winter maneuvers will strike first.

The Nevel rail key is already held the Orsha and Vitebsk Russian quaking under unabated Russian pressure. And a Nazi winter retreat from Leningrad and the Volkhov and the Lovol could involve no less dangers than withdrawal from the Crimea and the Dnieper bend.

On all fronts, the scene for the United Nations is bright by contrast with the face it showed a year ago this mid-October. But where is it so bright, so fraught with tremendous possibilities in the months just ahead, as in Russia. And it is there that the greatest ally of them all, another Russian winter, is marshaling for action that could bring on the decisive battles of the war in Europe before spring comes again.

House Committee May Widen Investigation Of Plane Production

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—A House Naval subcommittee called quietly for a confidential War Production Board report on plane production, with a stated possibility that it may widen a current investigation in Brewster Aeronautical Corporation affairs to cover other plants.

The move came as a direct result of a claim by Brewster officials that their production, admittedly far behind Navy schedules, is not at the bottom of a WPB list of plane producers.

"If there are other plane manufacturers with records as satisfactory as that at Brewster," Brewster's Maas (R-Minn.), the committee's ranking minority member, told his colleagues, "then let's get out who they are and what can be done to correct the situation."

POSTMASTERSHIP

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—The civil service commission has announced that applications will be received until the close of business Nov. 9 for the following postmaster positions in North Carolina. Annual \$2,700 salary.

CHAMPION ECONOMIZER

A woman charged at Marlborough street today with being drunk protested against having been taken to the police station in a police car, saying the constable could well have assisted her to walk and thus save petrol.

GOEBBELS TELLS THE TRUTH

Joseph Goebbels, German propaganda minister, told the German people that "there will be a limit to American and British successes."

Joe, for once you're right. There will be a limit. That limit Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill already have tersely defined as "unconditional surrender." — New York World Telegram.

That may be a better basis for immediate international postwar collaboration than unthinking sentiment.

Christian Science Monitor.