

TODAY and TOMORROW

By WALTER LIPPMANN

There are, I believe, good reasons for thinking that the best charter which can be written at San Francisco would be strictly a constitutional or fundamental law. So it would contain nothing which is not essential in order to establish the international organization. The charter would make no attempt to lay down the law about or to determine matters that the international organization itself could much better deal with.

What is vitally important is to bring into being at the earliest possible moment an international organization which shall have as its declared purpose the maintenance of just and equitable peace among the United Nations. There has to be a general assembly of all the members. There has to be a security council in which the great military powers are always present. The creation of this framework is the fundamental pact of union: it will bind the nations to meet regularly in order to reach agreements to carry out the purposes of the organization.

Once we have this basic pact, we shall have the essential charter. Whether anything else should be put into the charter is really a practical judgement—namely, this one: whether this conference in San Francisco is better fitted to decide any particular question than will be future meetings of the assembly and the council.

For the San Francisco meeting is a meeting of the United Nations; the international organiza-

tion will provide for a continuing series of meetings of these same United Nations. These nations are no wiser or better because they are meeting in San Francisco in April, 1945, than they will be when next they meet wherever the international organization meets.

There will be, I believe, a great advantage in remembering that the San Francisco meeting need decide no question which the subsequent meetings of the same United Nations could not decide at least as well—and perhaps better because the issues will have become clearer and there will have been more time to examine them. Thus it is very doubtful, it seems to me, whether the charter needs to prescribe exactly how votes are to be counted in the assembly and in the council. Why not let them determine their own voting procedure? The attempt to determine it for them has led to bitter feeling over a series of intricate formulae designed to cover a few imaginary cases that the handful of men who have worked on these questions happen to have thought of. The attempt to say now that on this question the vote shall be unanimous, on that one by majority, on another by two-thirds, is to try to foresee and foreclose what no one now can foresee and no one should foreclose.

Mechanical contraptions of this sort will work only when it does not matter whether they work or not. On the hard and important questions the governments will always consult diplomatically and confidentially before they argue publicly. One of the first things they will have to agree upon in these confidential discussions is whether they will put the issue to a vote, and if they decide to vote on it, how they will define the issue. They may use the Dumbarton Oaks and Yalta formula if in the practical situation they find that it fits the needs of the case. And if they do not think this formula fits the case, they will avoid a vote or they will devise some other formula which does fit the case.

Therefore, the less sharply defined the voting formula is in the charter, the more it will correspond with the realities, and the

MANY THANKS

With deep appreciation, I feel very grateful to all those who voted and worked for me in Monday's election. To those elected I pledge cooperation in any manner for the betterment of our City. Again I thank you.

GEORGE H. BRINSON

NOTICE

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH ELECTION

Pursuant to charter requirements as amended all aspirants for the office of mayor or alderman of the Town of Wrightsville Beach must file with the town clerk before May 1st their intention to be a candidate in the June 4th, 1945 biennial election.

All legal residents must register with the town clerk before Sunset May 15th, 1945 to be eligible to vote.

R. L. BENSON

Town Clerk, Wrightsville Beach

less we shall now be involved in issues of prestige and in odious distinctions between first, second, and third class states which arise from being unnecessarily specific in advance.

I venture to think that it is equally impossible to write into the charter an effective commitment to use force. The charter can, and should, authorize the use of force. But the commitment which binds each particular government to take forcible action can be made effective in advance only by specific military conventions which have been negotiated and ratified. There can be no such thing as an effective generalized commitment to use armed force at an unknown time in an unspecified place against a hypothetical aggressor. The enforcement of peace will have to be arranged through specific conventions for the definite purposes: for example to police Germany, to police Japan, to make secure the American republics, to police the Pacific Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, the Mediterranean, and so forth. All this will need to be implied in the charter. But obviously the charter can only authorize it and the charter cannot define it.

For the rest, for all the cases that are not covered by specific pacts, there can be a mobilization of collective force only as, if and when the governments, meeting in the United Nations organization, agree to supply the force and use it. The basic agreement to meet in order to agree is all that is possible and all that is necessary. If the powers agree when they meet that they will use force to maintain peace, they will use it. If they do not agree when they meet, then no formula of words adopted at San Francisco in 1945 can mobilize armies in 1955.

Our Constitution, let us remember, authorizes Congress to declare war. It does not presume to say that Congress must declare war, or to say when, how, and for what precise reason Congress must declare war. All that this charter, since it is a fundamental law, should do is to authorize the general organization to use collective force.

A good constitution creates institutions designed for an accepted purpose; these institutions then write their own statutes and make their policies, render their judgments, and create laws, precedents, and usages.

The document that comes out of San Francisco should be very short, very simple, and concerned only with establishing a framework, declaring a purpose and authorizing the means to fulfill it. All the rest, the mechanisms, the procedures, the methods, the implementation, all substantive programs for welfare, should be developed by the organization itself through statutes and resolutions, and by its members through general and special conventions, pacts, protocols, and treaties designed to serve the declared purpose or to be consistent with it.

By adhering to this broad principle—which is to differentiate between a constitution and a body of laws—we can create a living organism that will itself grow and develop. But if we make a mechanical system of rigid pre-conceived rules which attempt to foresee and foreclose the future, we shall surely regret it.

TAX REDUCTIONS
WASHINGTON, April 24—(AP)—Chairman Robert L. Doughton (D-N.C.) of the House Ways and Means Committee, said today after conferring with President Truman that some tax reductions might be possible after VE Day.

In The Service

WINS BRONZE STAR



HARRIS

Lt. (jg) Charles Johnson Harris, USNR, husband of the former Mariar Sedwick, of Kenilworth, and son of the late Meares and Fannie Johnson Harris, of Wilmington, has been awarded the Bronze Star for "meritorious achievement" in action off the west coast of Italy, in May, 1944. The citation accompanying the award reads in part: "While engaged in a patrol mission off Anzio, Italy, on the night of 14-15 May, the USS PC 627 received an unidentified radar contact. Lt. (jg) Harris, as Officer of the Deck, immediately headed the ship for the target at standard speed and alerted the ready gun crews. Without regard for his own safety, he courageously manned a searchlight, effectively illuminating the suspicious craft and instantly identifying it as an enemy MAS boat. During the ensuing attack, Lt. (jg) Harris so effectively directed the gunfire of his ship that the hostile craft was quickly sunk and the only survivor taken prisoner. . . . The exceptional ability, prompt and decisive action and outstanding devotion to duty displayed by Lt. (jg) Harris reflected credit upon himself and the Naval Service."

Lt. Harris is a graduate of the University of North Carolina with a B. S. degree in Commerce in the class of 1940. He graduated from New Hanover High school and attended Woodberry Forest school. While at Carolina, he was captain of the wrestling team. He entered the service in November of 1942, receiving his training at Treasure Island, Cal., and Miami, Fla., and going overseas in April, 1942. He returned to this country in November, 1944, and is now stationed at the Miami, Fla., Naval Training Center as an instructor.

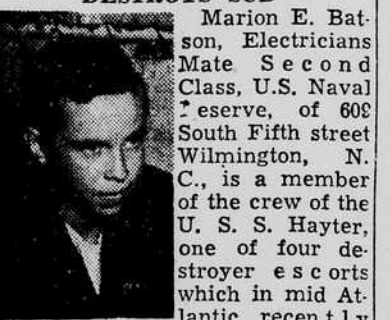
WINS AIR MEDAL

Luther W. Williams, Jr., has been awarded the air medal for meritorious achievement in aerial combat and has been promoted to the rank of first lieutenant. He is a pilot of a 15th AAF B-24 Liberator bomber. His group commander, Colonel S. E. Manzo of Long Island, N. Y., made the congratulatory presentation of the award.

Lt. Williams is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Luther W. Williams, Sr., of Rosehill, N. C. The Rosehill airman has chalked up 20 missions to his credit, most importantly in attack of oil refineries at Moosbierbaum and Vienna, Austria, and railyards and refineries at Munich, southern Germany, with concentrated attempts to choke all lines of communications leading southward from Vienna in direct support of the Russian ground armies' push toward that city.

He is a 1940 graduate of Rosehill high school and was a student at North Carolina State college when he enlisted in the air force as an aviation cadet, in December, 1942. He received his wings and was commissioned a second lieutenant when graduated from pilot's school at Blytheville, Ark., in April, 1943. He wears the distinguished unit badge with one bronze cluster as a member of a veteran group which holds two citations for its air aid rendered the British Eighth army and its last years blasting of the vitally important oil fields at Ploesti, Rumania.

DESTROYS SUB

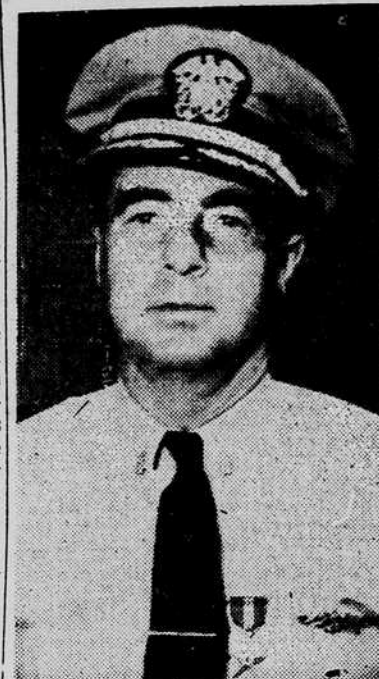


Marion E. Batson, Electrician's Mate, Second Class, U.S. Naval Reserve, of 608 South Fifth street, Wilmington, N. C., is a member of the crew of the U. S. S. Hayter, one of four destroyer escorts which in mid-Atlantic recently trailed and destroyed a German submarine, it has been announced by Admiral Jonas Ingram, Commander in Chief, U. S. Atlantic Fleet.

Zigzagging in a long and desperate effort to elude its pursuers, the enemy sub was finally blown to pieces in deep water. Debris, oil and personal belongings of the crew—such as a song book and bowl of a pipe—told the crews of the destroyer escorts that their hunt was ended. The four ships displayed an excellent brand of teamwork. They attacked the enemy vigorously. Each of the commanding officers has commanded his officers and men for the cool, well-disciplined and skillful manner in which they conducted the operation and action, a Navy Department spokesman said.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Batson, resides at 609 South 5th street, Wilmington, North Carolina. Before entering the Navy, Electrician's Mate Batson was employed by Batson Transfer and Furniture Company, Wilmington, North Carolina. He attended the New Hanover High school, Wilmington, North Carolina. He wears the American and European-African theatre of war ribbons, for active service in those areas.

Wins Bronze Star



Commander Richard S. Andrews, USN, commanding officer of a submarine in the Pacific, has been awarded the Bronze Star by Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz. The citation read: "for distinguishing himself by meritorious service in action. He aggressively closed and launched skilful attacks which resulted in damaging or sinking enemy shipping of about 3,000 tons." Commander Andrews' wife, Mrs. Fanny Russell Andrews, and three children are residing at 110 North 13th street here.

SEED LAW HEARING

RALEIGH, April 24—(AP)—A public hearing concerning the new State seed law will be held here May 1, W. H. Darst, director of the State Department of Agriculture's seed laboratory announced today.

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ORIENT LODGE NO. 395 A. F. & A. M. Special communication this Wednesday evening, April 25th at 7:30 o'clock.

FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE All qualified Masons cordially invited. By order of the Master. W. H. McClain, Secretary

Czech Foreign Minister Arrives For Peace Talks

SAN FRANCISCO, April 24—(AP)—Czech Foreign Minister Jan Masaryk stepped off a plane today to say that "little people should be seen and not heard" at the United Nations conference. Beyond this remark, Masaryk declined to elaborate to reporters on his views toward the United Nations conference opening tomorrow.

He said he was not going to say anything now but "later I may have something to yowl about."

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GAME VIOLATORS
RALEIGH, April 24—(AP)—The State Department of Conservation and Development said today that 125 violators of game and fish laws were brought into court during March. The violations ranged from fishing without a license to taking undersized fish.

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All Persons Owing Back Taxes are warned if immediate payment or satisfactory arrangements are not made property will be sold to satisfy all tax claims plus cost and interest. No further notice will be given. Back Tax Department City and County Tax Office

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