

The Daily Tar Heel

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The Shift Toward War

Before this present storm of patriotism fell on us, we used to have a saying in our bull sessions that ran like a ballad—
"I guess we learned our lesson,
Yes, I guess that war's for fools . . ."

We said war was no good and only for the stupid. We walked the path of prodigals, but we walked strongly. We said, most of us, we would fight under a single condition — at no time except when America was directly attacked.

We had learned an awesome lesson from our fathers' mistake. Under the mask of labels, war was not fought primarily for ideals but for cold-blooded practical reasons. We believed in no way of life but the American: we would gladly defend our system when democracy was challenged here, in America.

But many of us are wavering today when strength and the courage to stand for our convictions are most needed. The elders who had approved us formerly are striving now, for the most part, to "shame" us, to accuse us of cowardice and laziness. Like a court of crows a group of them leans over us, scolding, pleading, striving to lead us towards a war we have always denied as our own.

Any day through the open window we can hear our elders' invitations: join the army, the navy; step right up and get in line; help stop Hitler . . .

Any day at Carolina look around you and see what has happened already. See how the traditional education system has begun to warp in order to meet the demands of the war-frightened. Stop to count the steps: the naval reserve, the CAA, compulsory physical training, the encroachment of dogma on reason . . .

As the new year and new quarter begins at Carolina, war threatens to disrupt our scholastic life. Around us begins the great chorus of parrot-tongues — the men who

derive their catch-words and slogans from such people as William Allen White. Our elders are asking us to join a campaign. They are asking us to rush willingly to the task of saving the British empire from collapse. They are beating up the war-drums to regiment our feelings.

But there is another campaign we might make. We might deny that a group of pro-war politicians have the democratic right to say you and I must torture and murder — and be tortured or murdered — in a war that is not our own, and in a war where we run the tremendous risk of losing everything America has gained. God knows we want the British to be victorious — but not at the price of the death of American democracy. We must be sure that in aiding the English we draw a line beyond which we cannot go.

You and I are being subjected to the most dangerous war propaganda ever conceived. If we make a careful and courageous path ahead now, we may find in America some day the democracy we dream of — a true American democracy. — S. R.

Hal Kemp

Entertainers, band leaders, and newspaper columnists all over the nation paid tribute to Carolina alumnus Hal Kemp whose death shocked all music lovers and those associated with the University.

Eulogies for Kemp the man cannot, however, fill the place he made in the entertainment world as a good-will agent for the University. His style and his unfinished work will carry on.

Yet, the work of Hal Kemp will not be felt until long after his death. The pleasure he spread with his soft, sophisticated music was felt by millions over three continents. The good he did in making the name of North Carolina an honored one will certainly be missed. The aid and encouragement he gave young band leaders was invaluable. Along with our scholars, statesmen,

Of Mice

By SIMONS ROOF

The Democratic Army
Of course America is a long way from fascism. Racial hatred and oppression are a part of the European plan. This thing happening to Negroes in America is only an accident. Take the accident as it is happening in the Army.

Among the 62,200 licensed pilots in service, 130 are Negroes. An Army Bill was passed in March 1939 setting up a special school to train Negro pilots. The school has been forgotten a long time. The Army is so busy. Technical jobs require intelligence in the worker. Of the 180,000 men

in training for technical jobs, three are Negroes. But there is every chance for a Negro. It just happens that only three in every 180,000 are as smart as white men.

At State universities a student in the ROTC is given an officer's commission in his third or fourth year. Negro students are allowed to remain in the ROTC two years.

Two years, it is argued, is a waste of training anyhow. Negroes are like domesticated animals. If the Army uses plans similar to those of the world war conscription, four-fifths of the Negro enlistees will enter labor battalions. Negroes don't need two years training to know how to use axes and shovels.

Conscription is in effect in order to preserve American democracy. Army officials should be proud. Isn't democracy being preserved nicely?

Light On The Hill

By Bill Snider

Spengler and Christmas

The late Oswald Spengler would have enjoyed American Christmas 1940. Mr. Spengler is the disturbing German scholar who popped up back in 1917 with a foreboding prophecy for Western civilization. Although scientists and historians have lambasted the "facts" in his interesting theory and critics have labeled it the prelude to Nazi barbarism, his major volume, which so accurately warned of a "return of the Caesars," still packs a fascinating wallop.

In "The Decline of the West" Spengler describes the civilizations of all late, highly developed cultures (including our Western) as "existence without inner form." For that reason he would have been particularly interested in looking in on American Christmas 1940. Certainly our holiday season with its lavish spending, its impressive manifestations of splendor and show, and its dazzling colored lights flung extravagantly over the face of a nation has been a brilliant demonstration of the gaudy, carefree exterior of the American mind and an ominous whiff of the shivering, insecure soul of the people.

Chattanooga had its 50 ft. neon star. Denver lighted up the plains with a neon-lighted Santa beaming from a 350 ft. skyscraper. From Florida and California came the familiar bathing cuties cutting capers with St. Nick. New York's Rockefeller Plaza lighted an 82 ft. Christmas tree. A man in West Newton, Mass. adorned a tree in front of his residence with 8,500 blue bulbs. Across the United States in lesser degree but still with the typical American desire to have the "biggest" or the "best" the mad desire to chase away darkness was the same.

America put on the dress of Christmas but it was difficult indeed to feel the inner spirit of the festive holiday. LIFE described it this way: "Christmas tide of 1940, though gay, bore with it little of the sweet old remembrance of things past, little of the fragrance of evergreens, candles, carols, still snows and silent skies. It brought instead a hectic flush. Streamlined, mass-produced mechanical Santas of identical image grinned and nodded in department store windows from coast to coast. . . . Decorators did tricks with electricity and plastics. Comic-strip characters and bathing beauties intruded on a show once dominated by the Magi and the Virgin Mary. Phonograph owners flocked to buy a recording of 'Silent Night' and 'Adeste Fideles' crooned by Bing Crosby." Everywhere in greater degree

educators, and other leaders, our alumni in the entertainment world serve as representatives of the University who further the name of Carolina by spreading happiness and fun.

It will be a long time until another Hal Kemp comes to Carolina. But, his inspiration will continue to bring forth and develop leaders in the entertainment field from Carolina men for many years to come.

than ever before it was the "existence without inner form," the nerve excitement and frantic festivity of the great city culture living in the shell of things once warm and vivid and true. Whether he be herald of fascist barbarism or not, Oswald Spengler prophesied the artificial mechanizing spirit that has been rumbling up on our horizon of the Twentieth century. Interesting indeed is his theory of successive cultures springing forth from a fertile mother earth, each hot with the primitive excitement of youth, each gradually maturing through an active summer and fall, and each gilded with the rouge and paint and false spryness of old age finally toppling over to return from whence it came.

Spengler's "Decline of the West" has long ago been read, reviewed, talked about, carefully tucked away and readily forgotten. He has been viewed by many critics not only as the prophet of the gangster-dictator but in reality the provider of the intellectual weapons for the fascist revolution. His debunking of rationalism as the way to progress and his fatalistic comments about the weakness of humanitarianism and pacificism are said to have set the stage in Germany for Adolph Hitler.

But regardless of all the criticism, much of it justifiable, Spengler's dark prophesies ring out across the years with amazing accuracy. After a Spenglerian Christmas it is still interesting to pause here on the opening of a momentous year and remember again the prophetic mutterings of a man whom Lewis Mumford has likened to "a black crow, hoarsely cawing, whose flapping wings cast a gigantic shadow over our whole landscape."

BULLITT

(Continued from first page)

In 1917 when President Woodrow Wilson selected him as special adviser on Central European affairs. Wilson also found him instrumental in helping draw up wartime notes and speeches.

After the war and acceptance of the peace terms by the involved powers, Bullitt plummeted to obscurity because he failed to agree with Wilson on the peace terms. He warned the President that the treaty was unsound.

During his diplomatic service, he has served as special envoy to Russia under Wilson; Ambassador to Russia, 1933-1936, under Roosevelt; and Ambassador to France from 1936-1940.

Rogers yesterday emphasized a banquet to be held at the Carolina Inn at 7 o'clock, with faculty members and students invited. Those desiring to attend at \$1.25 a plate should see Rogers at 9 Pettigrew or Lyman Collins at H dormitory.

ALUMNI FLYERS

(Continued from first page)

pared for entrance at Randolph or one of two other basic flight schools.

At Randolph Field there are more than 350 planes having top speeds of 175 miles an hour which are in daily use. The fledglings practice much night flying and aerial acrobatics during their training in these planes. After this training the young former college students go on to advanced flying schools where they receive instruction that qualifies them to become second lieutenants in the Air Corps. The complete schedule of training covers a period of 35 weeks during which time college men between the ages of 20 and 27 are transformed into full-fledged military aviators.

Pick Theatre Sunday

THRILL, AMERICA!
Stand by . . . for the mightiest sky-drama since "Hell Divers"! Air-devils . . . and the beauties who love them . . . in a picture without parallel . . . for romance . . . for action . . . for spectacle!

With the Gratefully Acknowledged Cooperation of the United States Navy
M-G-M presents

Robert TAYLOR
FLIGHT COMMAND
RUTH HUSSEY with WALTER PIDGEON
Also LATEST NEWS EVENTS

PAUL SHEPPERD KELLY-STRUDWICK
NAT PENDLETON
A FRANK BOZGAGE Production
Screen Play by Frank Root and Commander Harvey Hottel
Directed by FRANK BOZGAGE
Produced by J. WALTER RUBEN
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer PICTURES

— MONDAY-TUESDAY —

DRAMATIC AS A POWER DIVE!!!
DEAD END KIDS
LITTLE TOUGH GUYS
GIVE US WINGS

Billy Halop Huntz Hall
Gabriel Dell Bernard
Punsley Bobby Jordan
WALLACE FORD VICTOR
JORY ANNE GWYNNE
SHEMP HOWARD

— WEDNESDAY —

A tender and deeply moving love story set against the gay and carefree atmosphere of Montmartre.

IN FRENCH
ENGLISH TITLES

Grace Moore
in her Latest Film
"LOUISE"
From the Opera by GUSTAVE CHARPENTIER
With GEORGES THILL and ANDRE PERNET

— THURSDAY —

THE BOYS FROM SYRACUSE

with ALLAN JONES · MARTHA RAYE · JOE PENNER
Rosemary LANE · Irene HERVEY · Charles BUTTERWORTH
Alan MOWBRAY · Erik BLORE · Samuel S. HINDS
UNIVERSAL

— Friday —
BOB HOPE
PAULETTE GODDARD
in
"THE GHOST BREAKERS"

— Saturday —
RICHARD ARLEN
ANDY DEVINE
in
"LUCKY DEVILS"